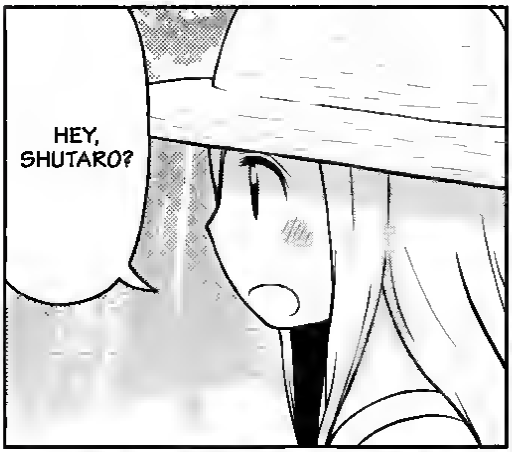
ACTION COMICS
銀のニーナ
ぎんがね
3
イトカツ

CHAPTER 18

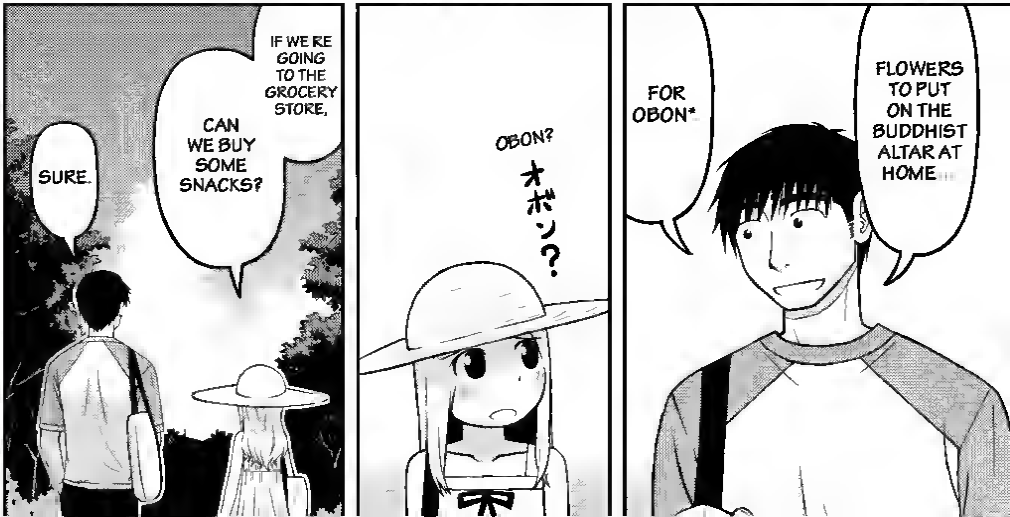
IT'S COLD AND DELICIOUS


HEY, SHUTARO?

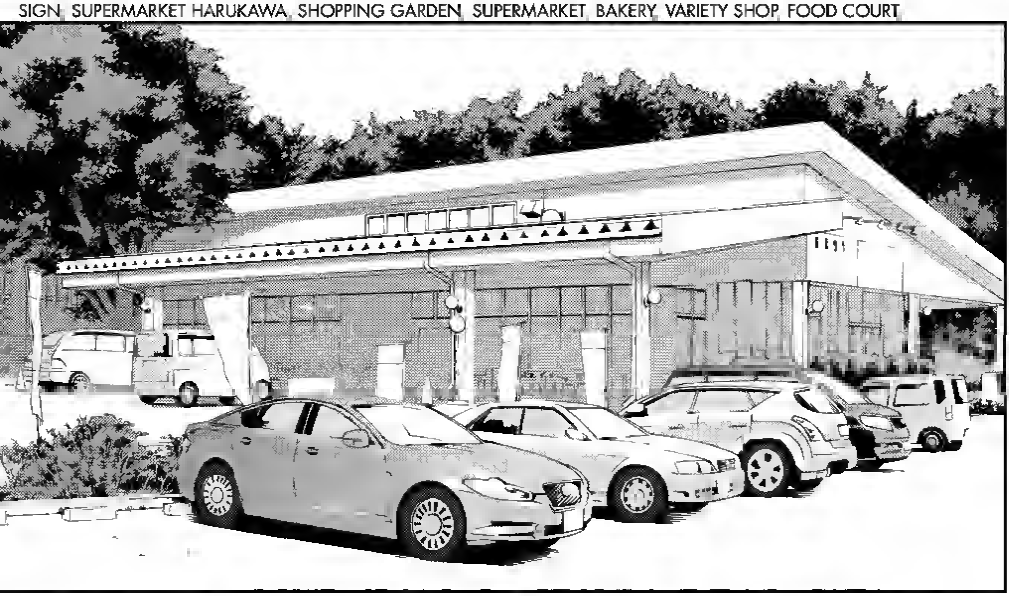
HM?

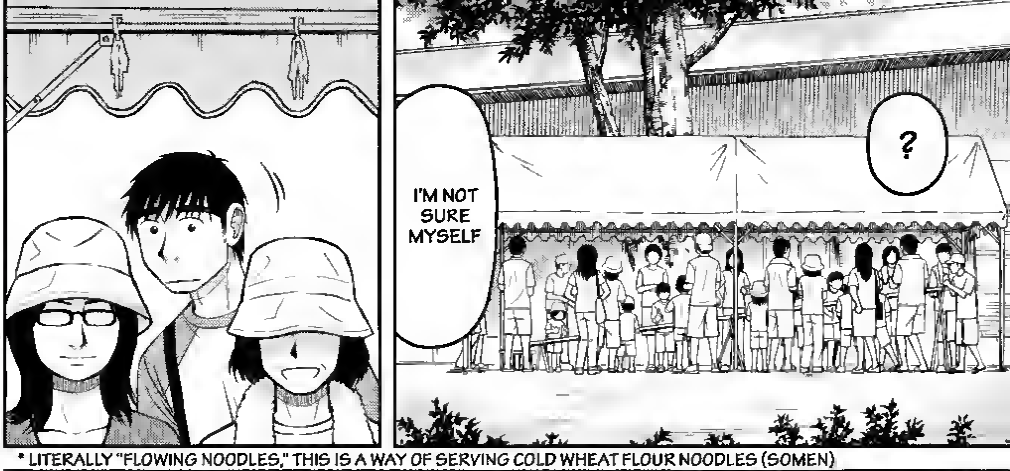
YEAH, YOU'VE GOTTEN BETTER.
REALLY?
NINA'S GOTTEN BETTER AT SWIMMING?
DO YOU THINK...
YOU HAVEN'T GOTTEN ANY BETTER AT NOT KICKING AROUND.
BUT YOUR BIGGEST PROBLEM IS YOUR FLAILING LEGS.
WHAT THE HECK?
なんでだよう
SO IT'S EVERYONE ELSE THAT IS WEIRD.
WELL IT'S WEIRD TO MOVE FORWARD JUST FROM KICKING AROUND,
HOW IS IT THAT YOU DON'T MOVE FORWARD AT ALL? YOU FLAIL AROUND SO MUCH.
?
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH

* A TRADITIONAL JAPANESE BUDDHIST MID-SUMMER FESTIVAL MEANT TO HONOR ANCESTORS' SPIRITS

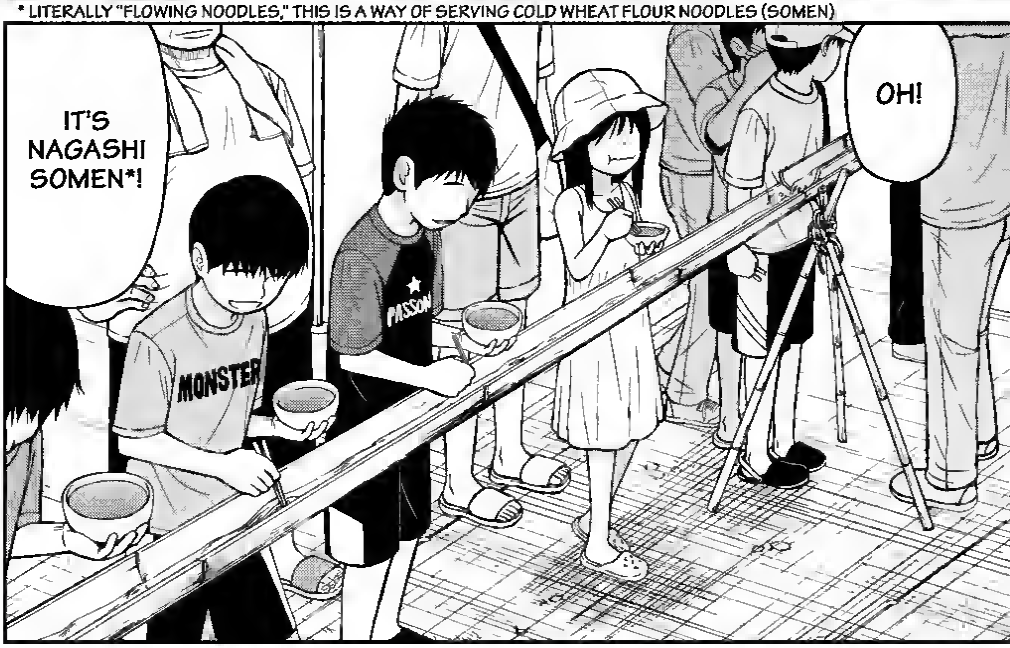


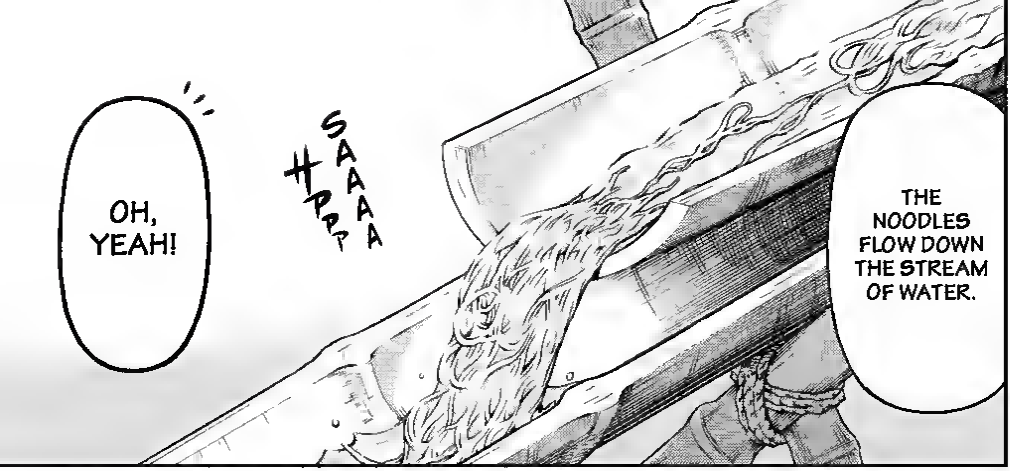
SIGN. SUPERMARKET HARUKAWA. SHOPPING GARDEN. SUPERMARKET. BAKERY. VARIETY SHOP. FOOD COURT.



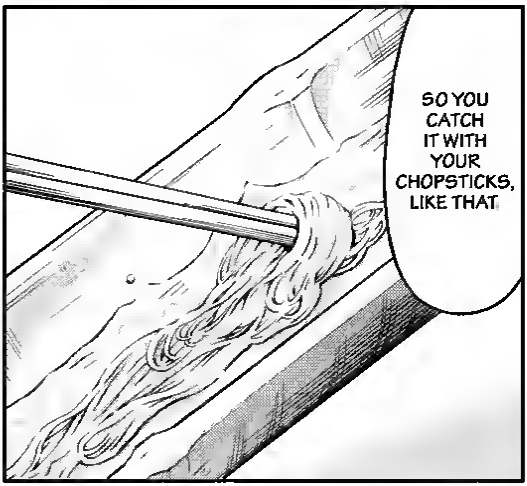


* LITERALLY "FLOWING NOODLES," THIS IS A WAY OF SERVING COLD WHEAT FLOUR NOODLES (SOMEN)



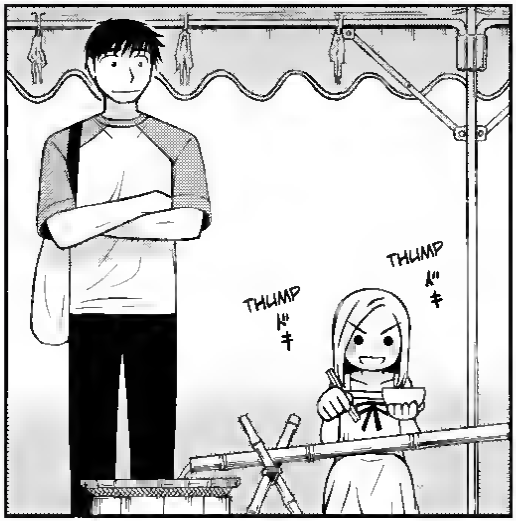

THE NOODLES FLOW DOWN THE STREAM OF WATER.
SAAAA
OH, YEAH!

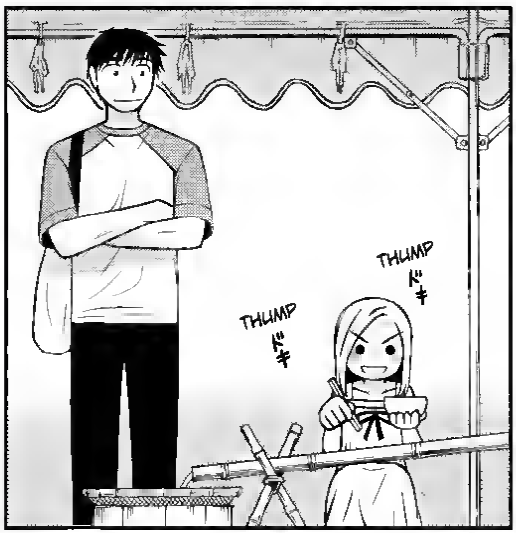
THEN YOU DIP THEM INTO YOUR BOWL OF BROTH AND EAT THEM.
LINC UNIVERSITY

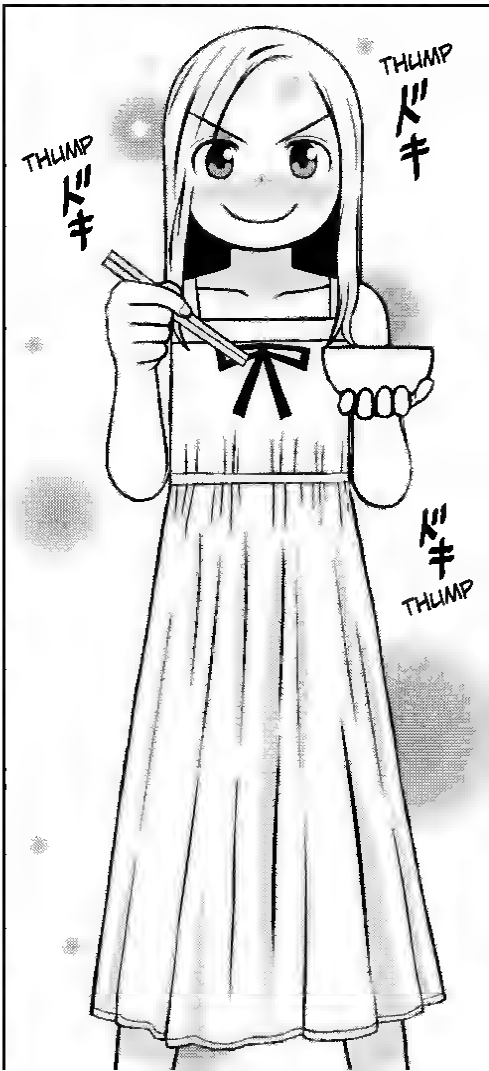

SO YOU CATCH IT WITH YOUR CHOPSTICKS, LIKE THAT.

THAT'S AMAZING! NINA DIDN'T KNOW...
THERE WAS RAMEN LIKE THIS!
ER, THIS IS SOMEN NOT RAMEN, GOT IT?

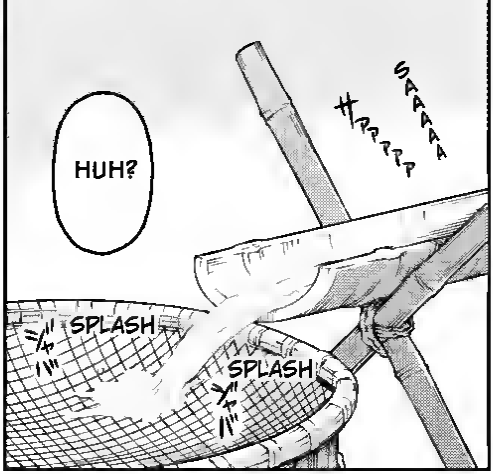
SIGN: NAGASHI SOMEN FAIR. ADULTS. CHILDREN. ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT FOR 1 HOUR. PLEASE ACCOMPANY SMALL CHILDREN.

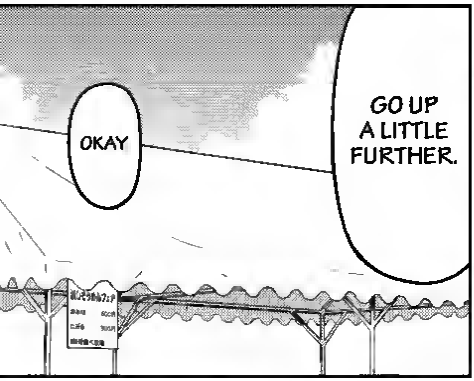


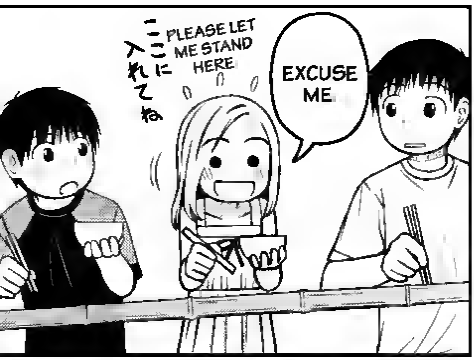


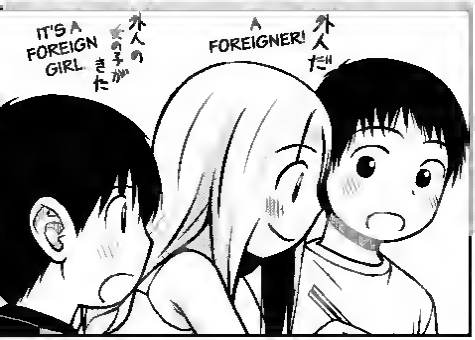


HA HA
THERE AREN'T ANY NOODLES COMING DOWN
WHY?
何で?


HUH?
SAAAAA
SPLASH
SPLASH


OKAY
GO UP A LITTLE FURTHER.

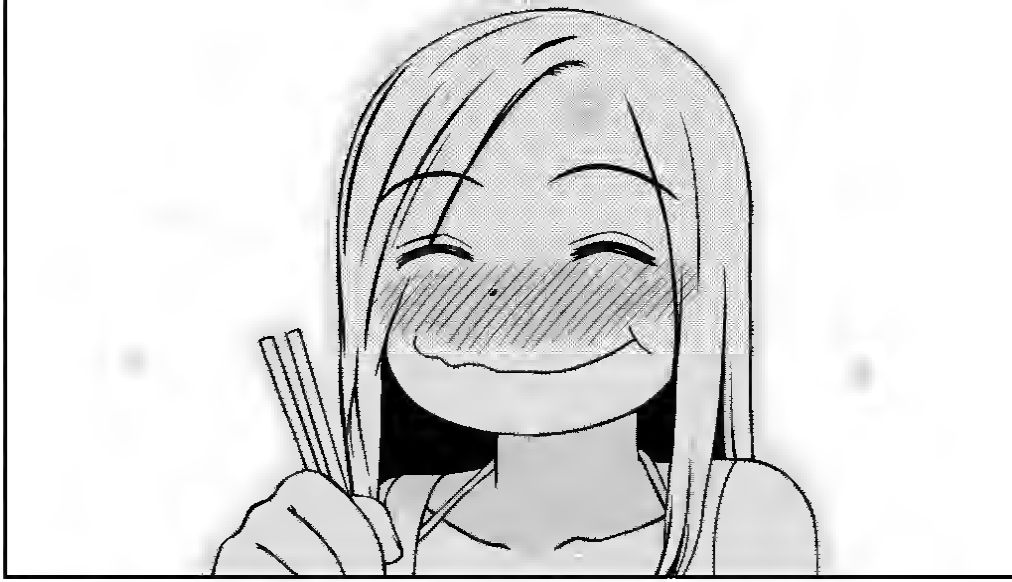

EXCUSE ME
PLEASE LET ME STAND HERE
ここに入れてね


A FOREIGNER!
外人だ!!
IT'S A FOREIGN GIRL
外人の女の子がきた

I SUPPOSE THE KIDS IN FRONT OF YOU ARE CATCHING ALL OF THEM BEFORE ANY GET TO YOU.
HUH.
SAAAAA
SPLASH
SPLASH

SLIP
すべっ
SAAAA
HAAAP
THE NOODLES ARE COMING DOWN!
OH!
I GOT A LOT
いっぱいとれた
HUH?
OH.
CHEW
もぐ
CHEW
もぐ
HUH?
GO ON, THE NEXT BATCH IS COMING
SIGN NAGASHI SOMEN FAIR ADULTS CHILDREN ALL YOU-CAN EAT FOR 1 HOUR
THERE!
STOP LOOKING OVER HERE, AND PAY ATTENTION TO THE NOODLES
NINA CAN'T GET ANY, SHUTARO.

GOT SOME!
DIP
ちゃぷっ
LOOK, NINA GOT SOME!
SEE? ね？
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SHOW ME,
JUST HURRY UP AND TRY IT.
CHEW もぐ
CHEW もぐ
CHEW もぐ
CHOMP はぐっ



IT'S CDLD AND SMDDTH

IT'S REALLY GOOD.

I SEE.

IT'S SO GOOD!

THAT TASTY?

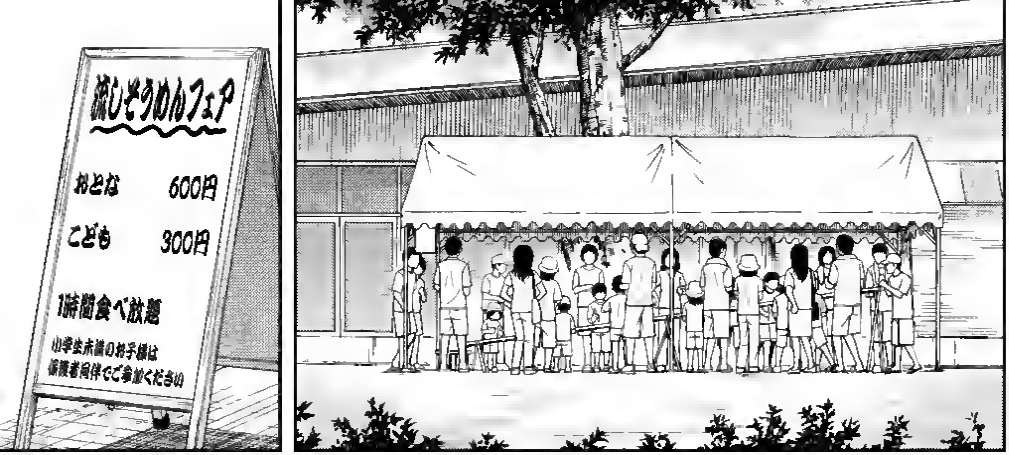
DELICIOUS! デリシャース

YOU SHDULD EAT SOME TDD, SHUTARO

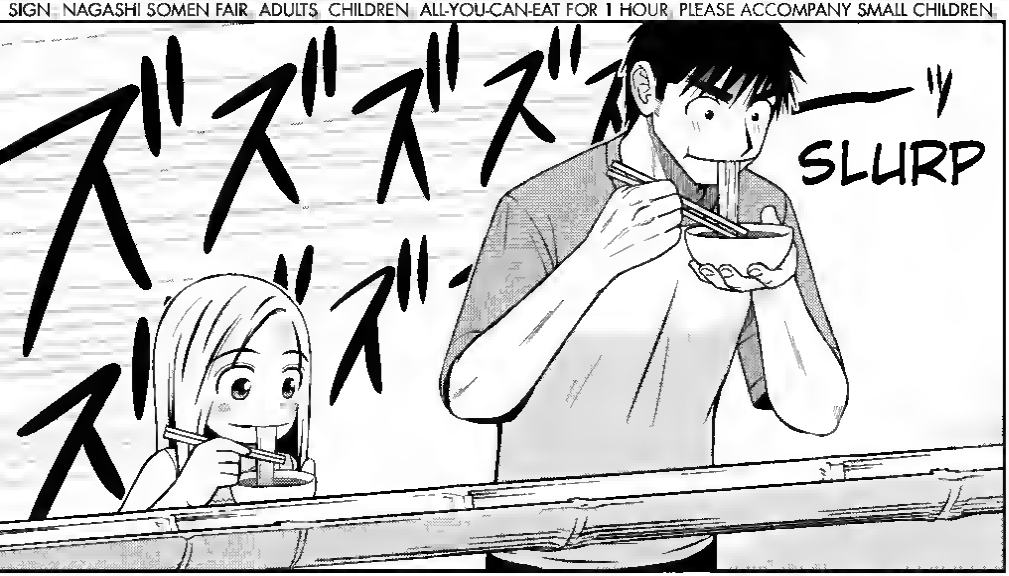
IF IT'S THAT GOOD, I GUESS I SHDULD ALSD TRY SOME...

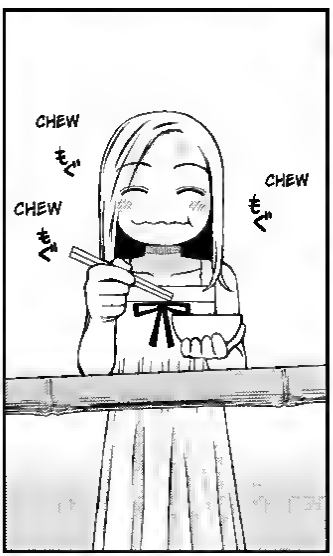
WATCH, NINA.
I'LL SHOW YOU HOW IT'S DONE.
OKAY.
ALL RIGHT.
FIRST...
DON'T KEEP YOUR CHOP-STICKS IN THE WATER
WHILE YOU WAIT FOR THE NOODLES.
DON'T PUT YOUR CHOPSTICKS IN THE WATER, AND JUST WAIT UNTIL THE NOODLES
COME RIGHT TO YOU.
WOW
AND WHEN THE NOODLES COME DOWN...
SAAAAA
HPPP

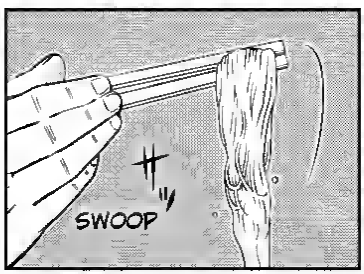
DIP THEM IN YOUR BROTH...
QUICKLY SCOOP THEM UP...
SWOOP
SPLASH
AND THIS IS HOW TO PICK THEM UP AND AND EAT THEM.
CHEW
CHEW
MAKE THE SLURPING SOUND
音をたてるな
OOOH
カッコイイ
SO COOL!
SLURP
ズズズー
ALL RIGHT!
SIGN: PLEASE FEEL FREE TO USE THE CONDIMENTS
NINA'S GOING TO EAT A LOT, TOO
YEAH.
薬味はご自由に

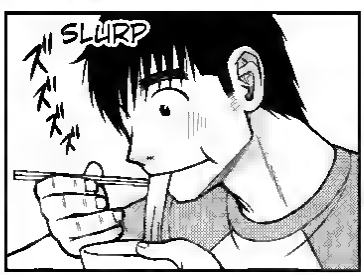


SIGN. NAGASHI SOMEN FAIR. ADULTS. CHILDREN. ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT FOR 1 HOUR. PLEASE ACCOMPANY SMALL CHILDREN.







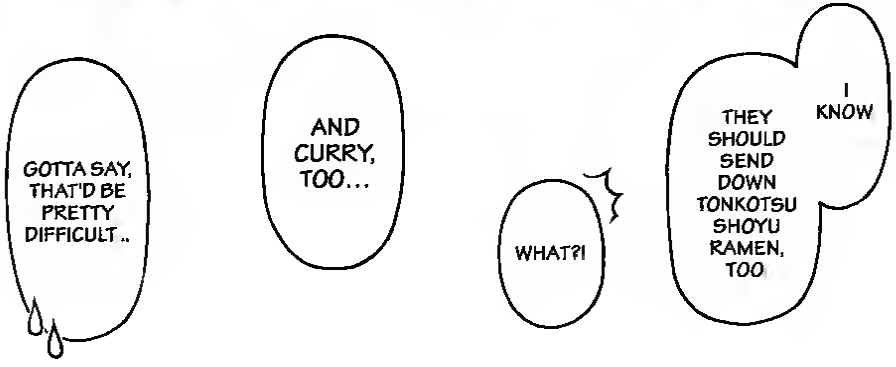


SHIRT: SOMEN FOR LIFE
HEY NOW,
YOU TWO
LOOK BEHIND YOU.
...
W-WE'RE SORRY!
OH.

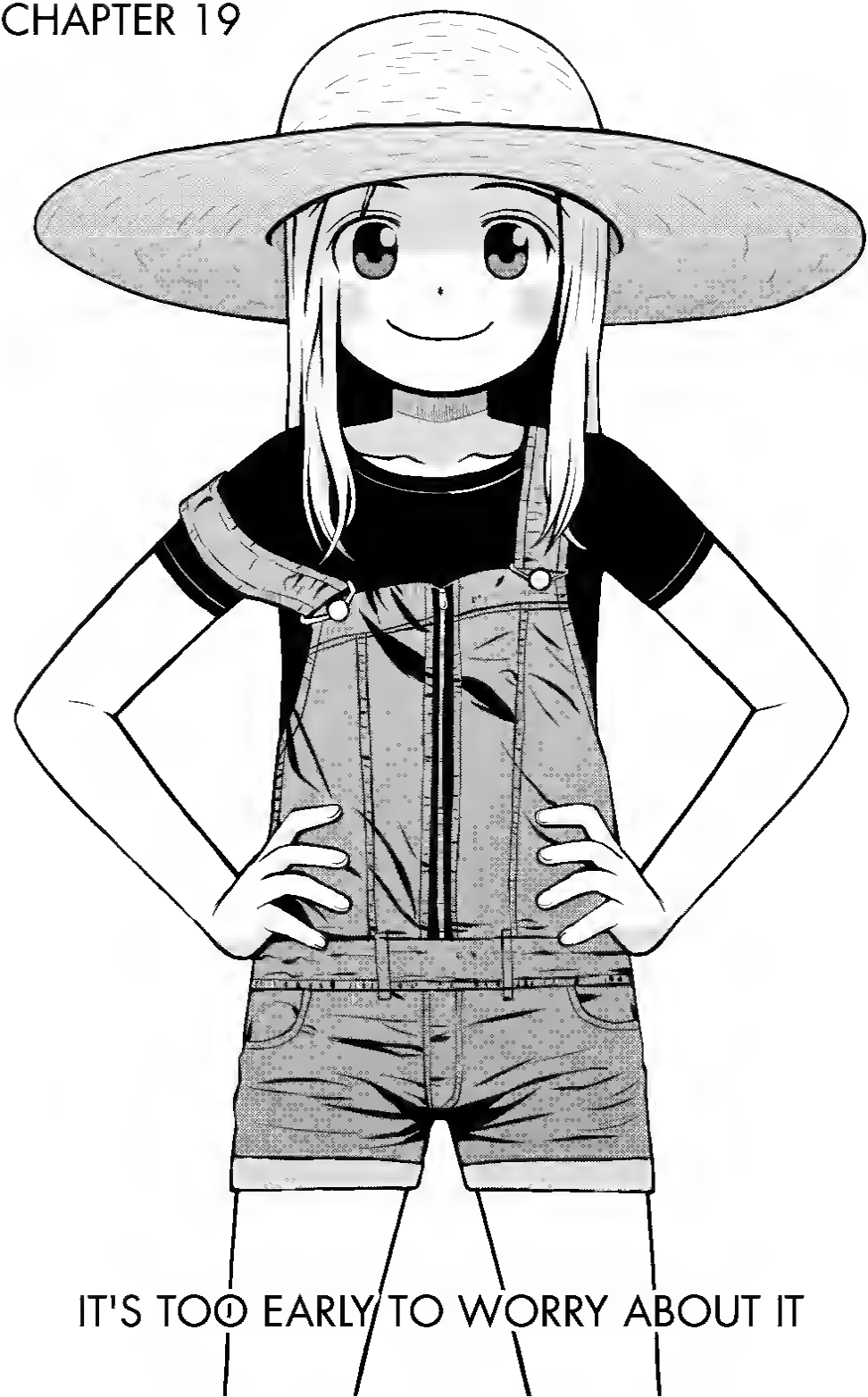
WE WENT A BIT OVERBOARD...
THE OLD GUY GOT MAD AT US, SHUTARO
THE MOST IMPORTANT RULE OF NAGASHI SOMEN...
IS TO NOT PICK UP AND EAT EVERYONE ELSE'S SHARE...
YEAH...
SO, NINA...
HOW WAS YOUR FIRST NAGASHI SOMEN?
IT WAS REALLY YUMMY,
AND REALLY INTERESTING!
I SEE...

HAHA.
JAPAN IS FULL OF MYSTERIOUS THINGS.
BUT WHY DO YOU GO THROUGH ALL THAT TROUBLE JUST TO EAT?

SURE.
ISN'T THAT ENOUGH?
WELL, BECAUSE IT'S COLD, DELICIOUS, AND FUN.


GOTTA SAY, THAT'D BE PRETTY DIFFICULT..
AND CURRY, TOO...
WHAT?!
THEY SHOULD SEND DOWN TONKOTSU SHOYU RAMEN, TOO
I KNOW

CHAPTER 19

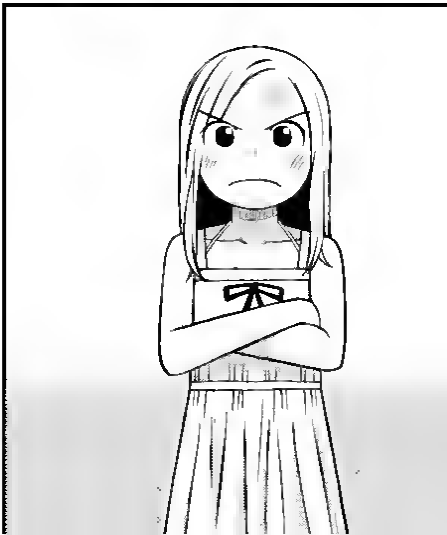


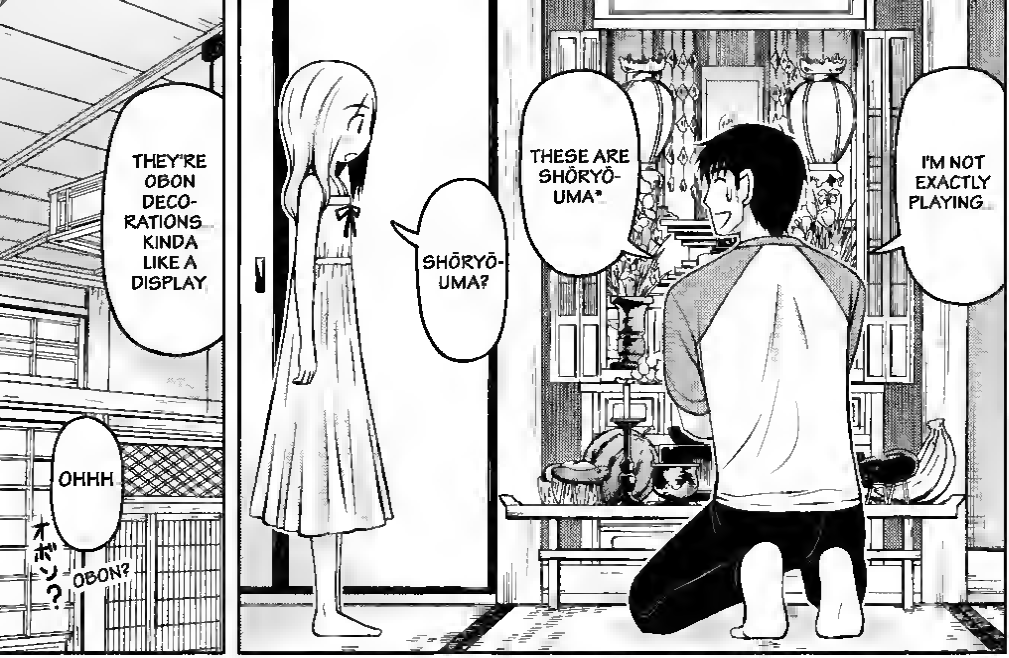
IT'S TOO EARLY TO WORRY ABOUT IT

HEY, SHUTARO!

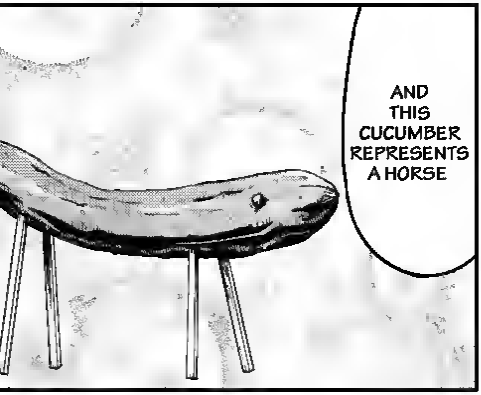
YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO PLAY WITH YOUR FOOD!

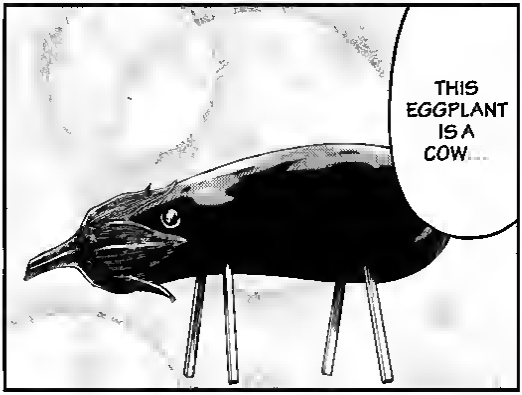
...
HUH?

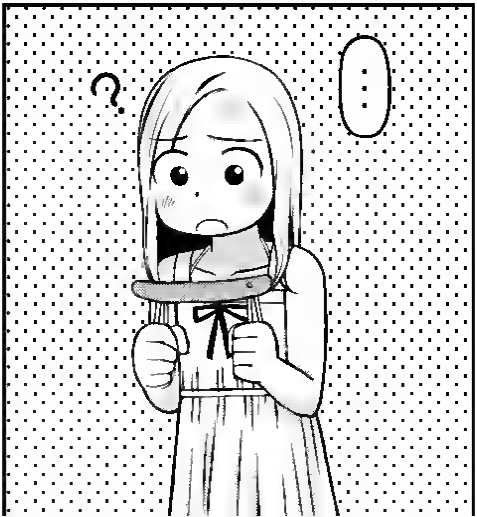




* OBON DECORATIONS MEANT TO CARRY SPIRITS BETWEEN WORLDS

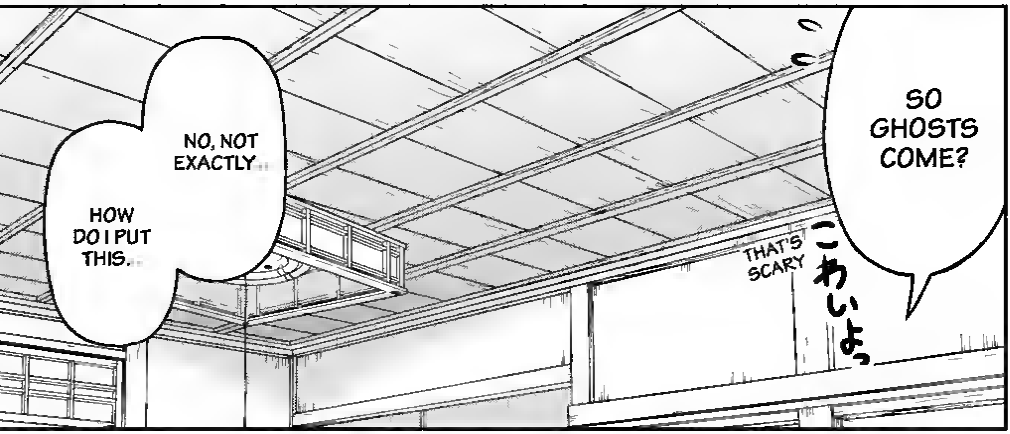




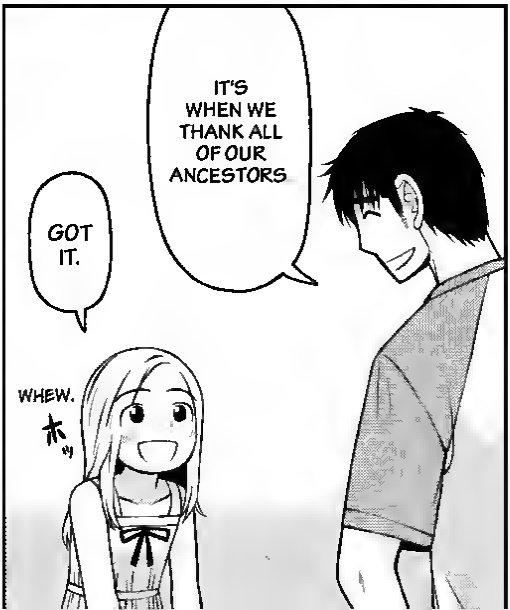


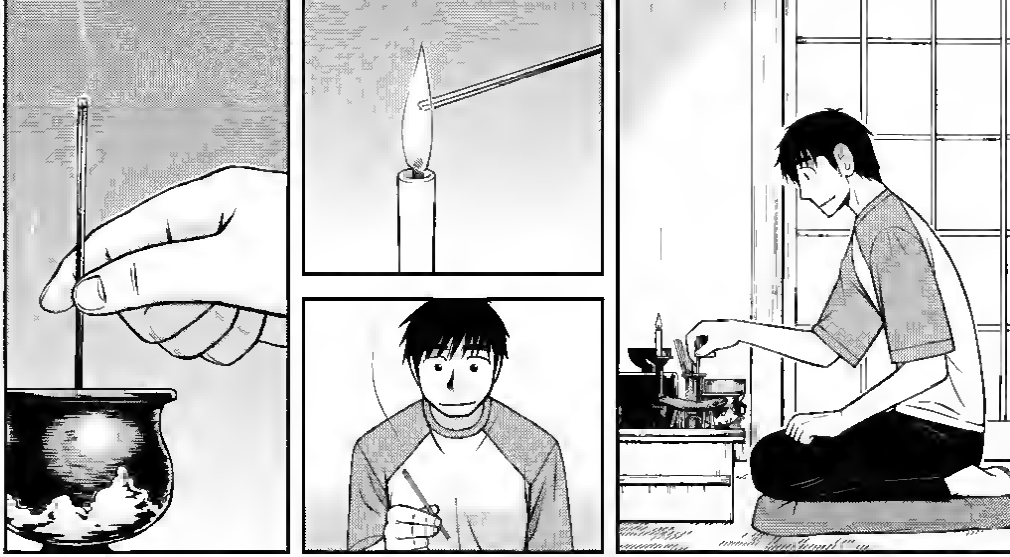
THAT'S SORT OF FREAKY...
IT'S AN ALLIGATOR WITH LONG LEGS!
I KNOW!
SHUTARO, WHAT'S OBON?
SO THIS IS LIKE A CHURCH ALTAR?
THAT'S RIGHT, I HAVEN'T EXPLAINED IT TO YOU YET, HAVE I?
YEAH, IT'S SORT OF LIKE THAT
OBON IS A DAY WHERE...

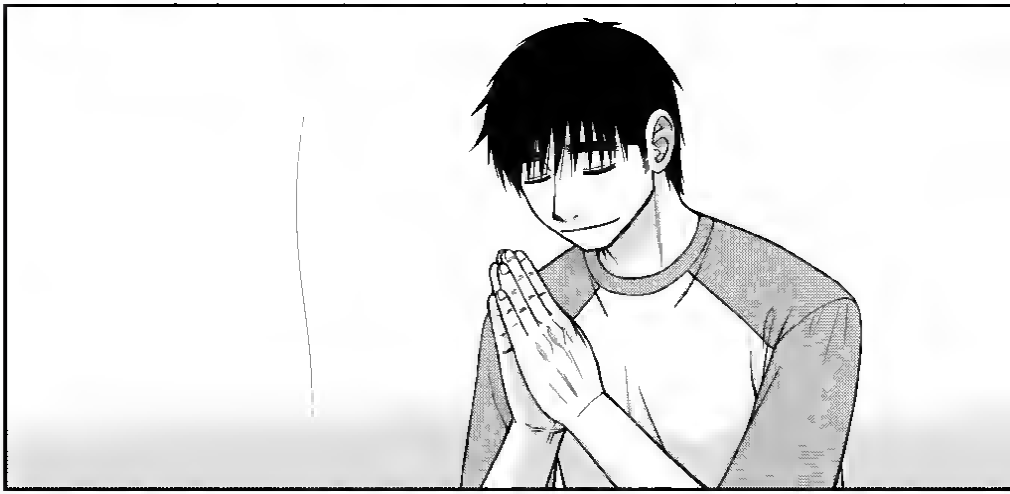
WHAT?!
えっ!?
MEANING, YOUR GRANDPA'S FATHER AND HIS FATHER AND OTHER PEOPLE FROM THE PAST... WE HOLD A MEMORIAL FOR THEM ON OBON.
WE WELCOME THE SPIRITS OF OUR ANCESTORS

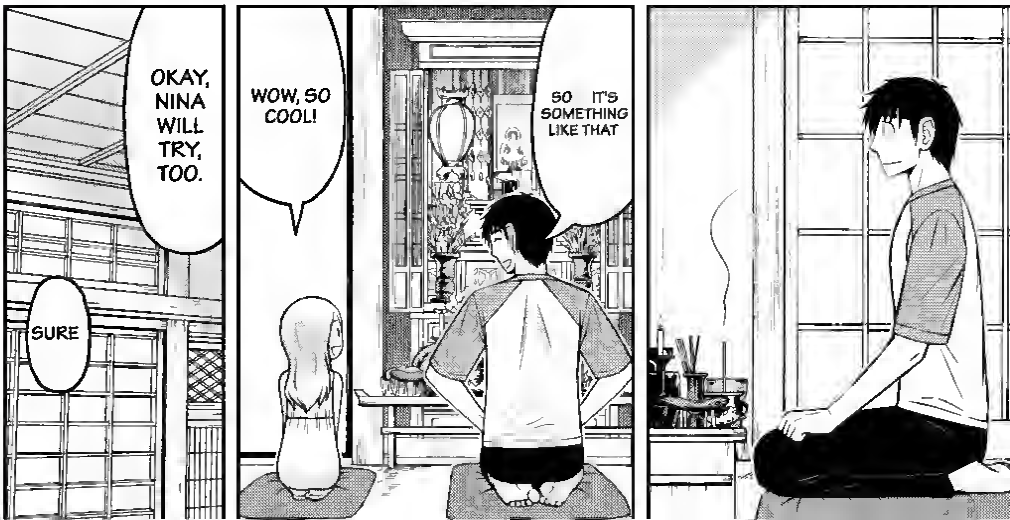

NO, NOT EXACTLY...
HOW DO I PUT THIS...
THAT'S SCARY
こわいよ
SO GHOSTS COME?

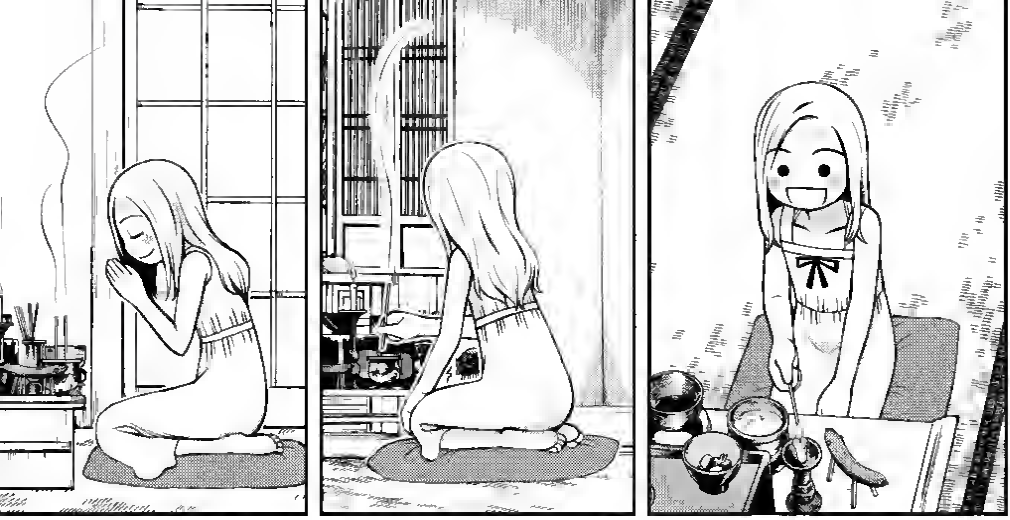
I KNOW NINA, WANT TO LIGHT SOME INCENSE?
I'LL SHOW YOU HOW TO DO IT, SO THEN YOU CAN TRY IT.
INCENSE?
OKAY

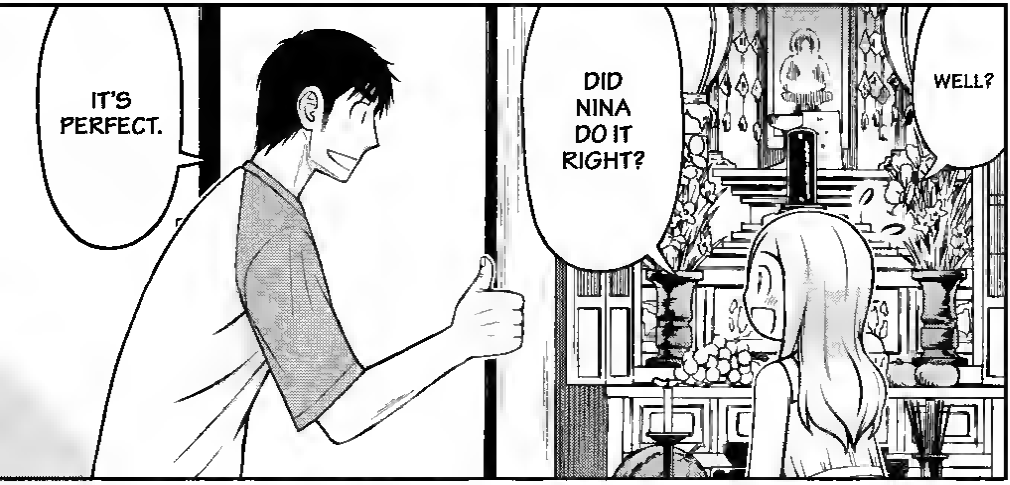

IT'S WHEN WE THANK ALL OF OUR ANCESTORS
GOT IT.
WHEW.
ホッ

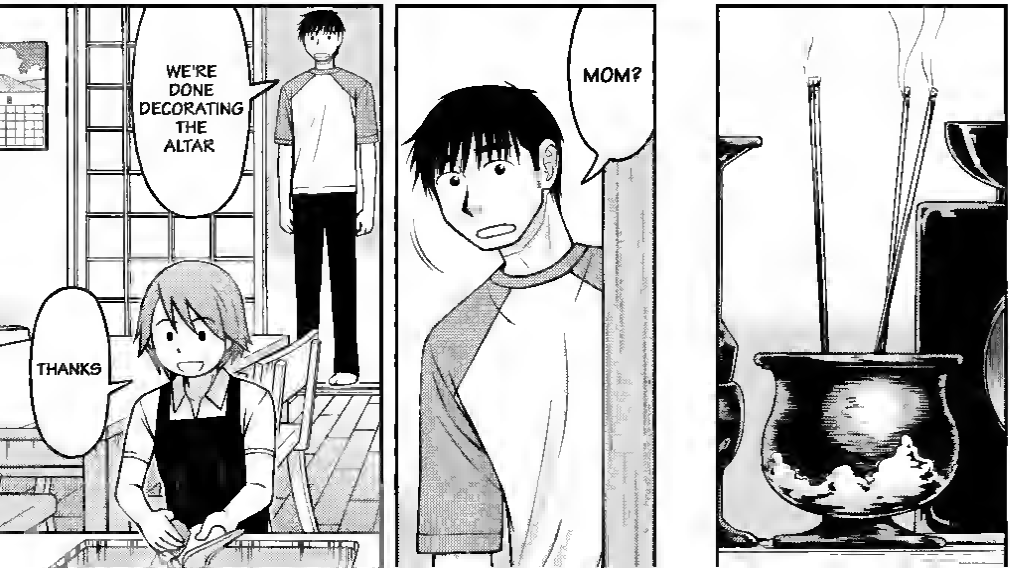




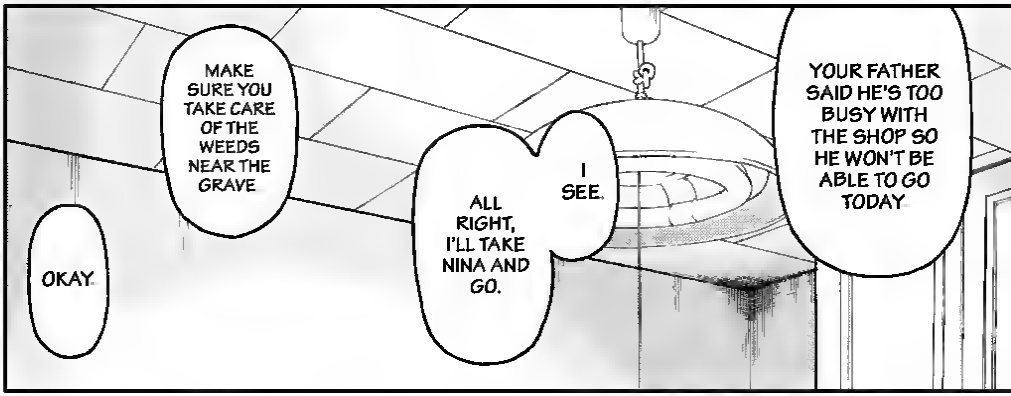

OKAY, NINA WILL TRY, TOO.
SURE
WOW, SO COOL!
SO IT'S SOMETHING LIKE THAT

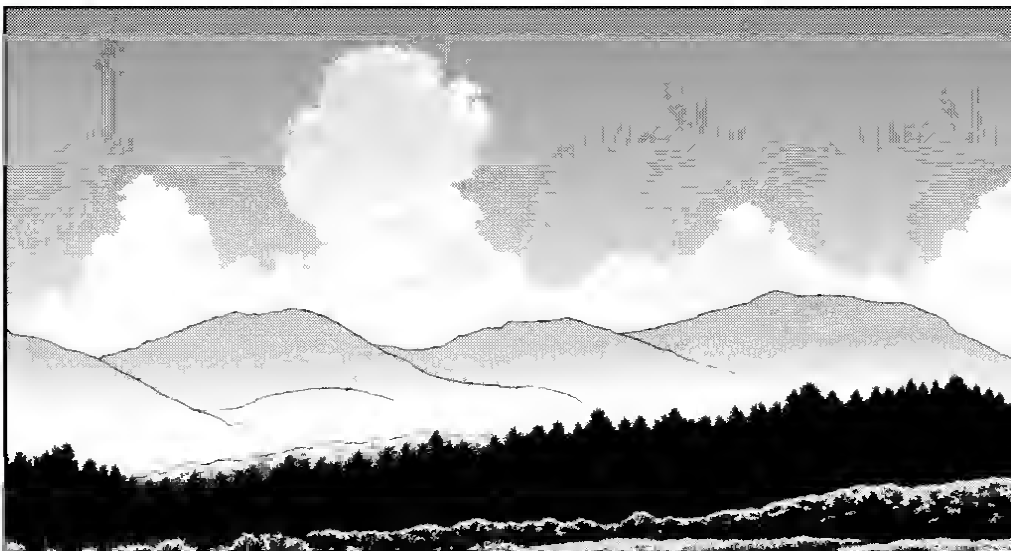



IT'S PERFECT.
DID NINA DO IT RIGHT?
WELL?

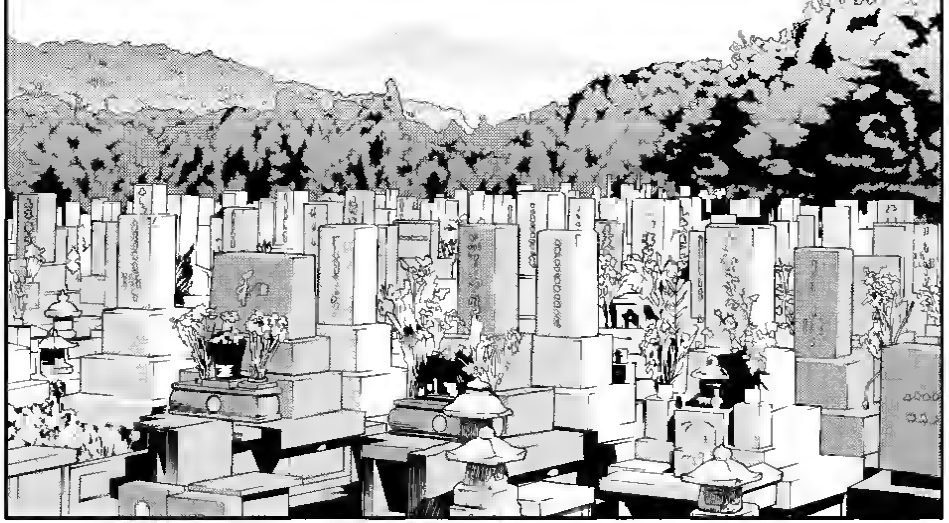

WE'RE DONE DECORATING THE ALTAR
THANKS
MOM?

SHUTARO,
WHY DON'T YOU TAKE NINA-CHAN AND VISIT THE GRAVE FIRST?
HUH?
WHAT ABOUT YOU GUYS?
YOUR FATHER AND I WILL GO TOMORROW.

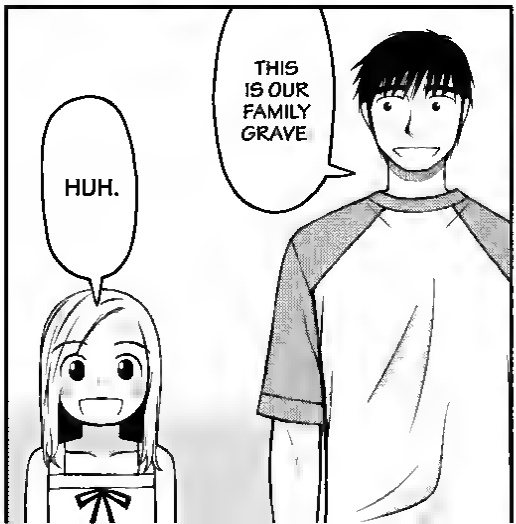

YOUR FATHER SAID HE'S TOO BUSY WITH THE SHOP SO HE WON'T BE ABLE TO GO TODAY.
I SEE.
ALL RIGHT, I'LL TAKE NINA AND GO.
MAKE SURE YOU TAKE CARE OF THE WEEDS NEAR THE GRAVE.
OKAY.

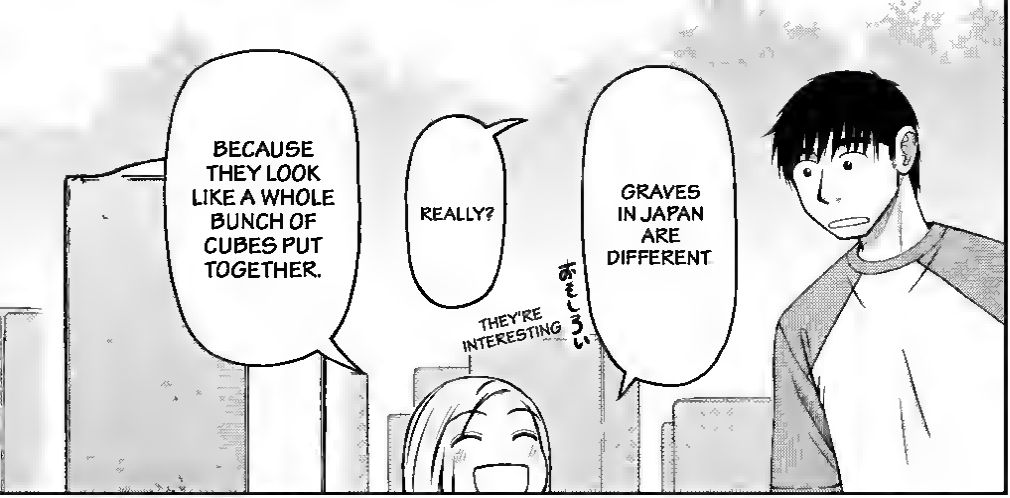


HUH?
WHERE ARE WE GOING?
HM?
HEY, SHUTARO
WE'RE GOING TO THE CEMETERY
WE'RE GOING TO VISIT THE GRAVE
WHAT?!
NINA DOESN'T WANNA GO TO THE SCARY CEMETERY!
* LITERALLY MEANING "MEMORIALS" AND "VISITING."
IT'S MAIRI, NOT MAERI
LIKE "KUYŌ" AND OHAKA MAERI".
NINA DOESN'T REALLY GET IT
ALL THE JAPANESE TODAY IS SO HARD
IT'S NOT SCARY AT ALL.
IT'LL BE FINE.

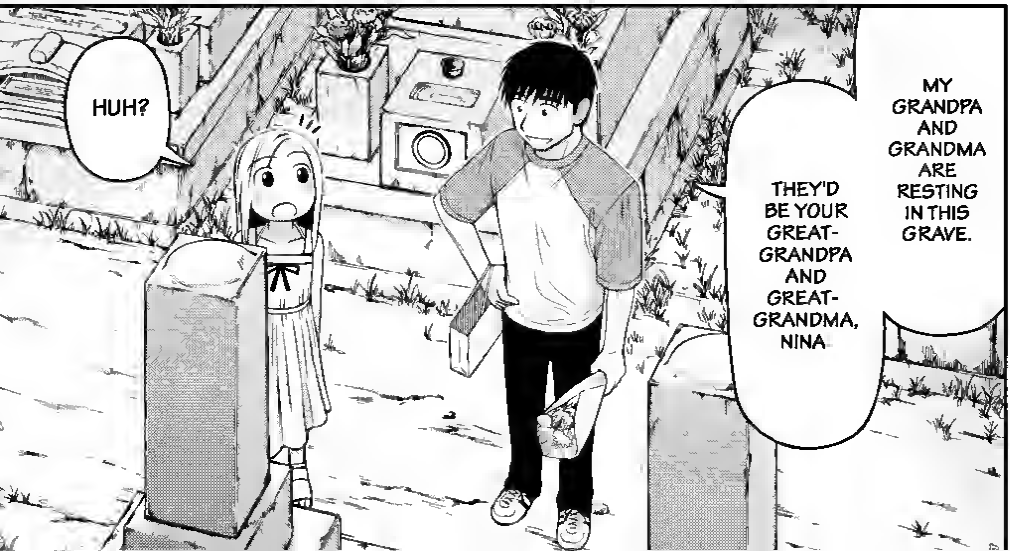


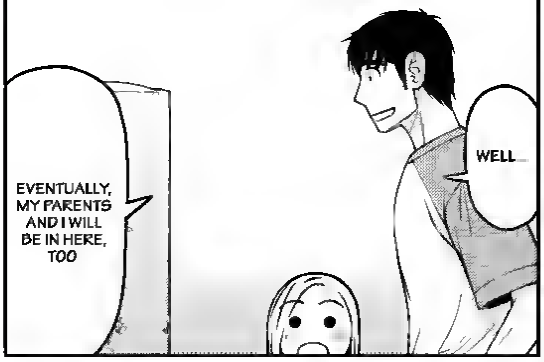
SIGN: SHIMAZAKI FAMILY GRAVE

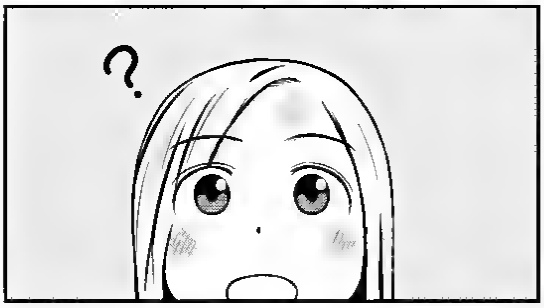


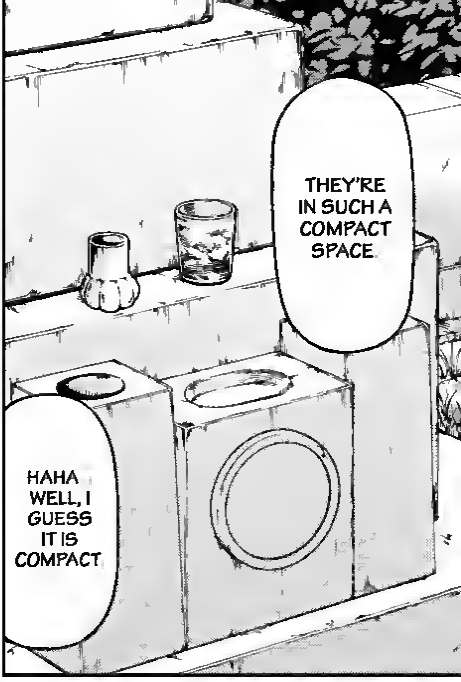

GRAVES IN JAPAN ARE DIFFERENT
REALLY?
おもしろい
THEY'RE INTERESTING
BECAUSE THEY LOOK LIKE A WHOLE BUNCH OF CUBES PUT TOGETHER.

SIGN: SHIMAZAKI FAMILY GRAVE

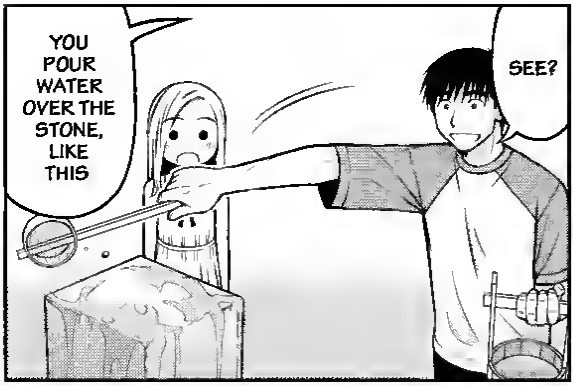


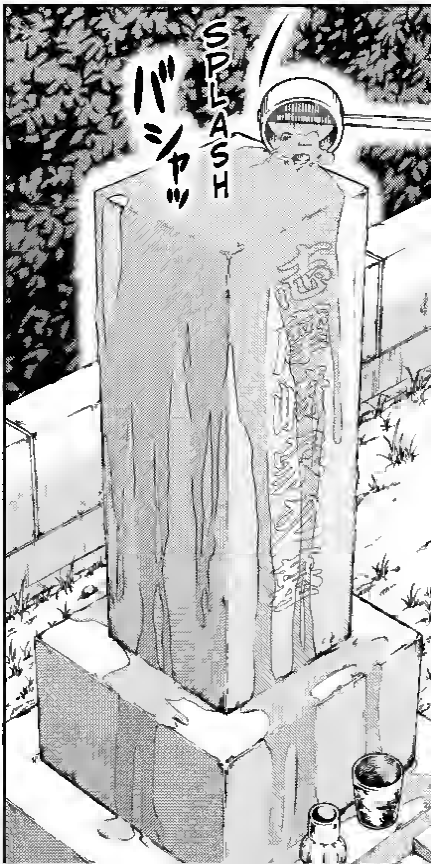


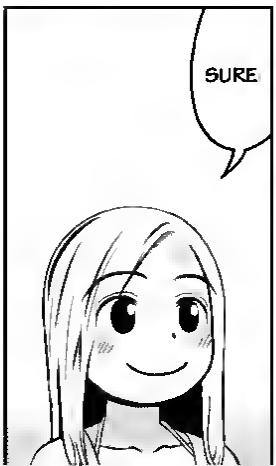


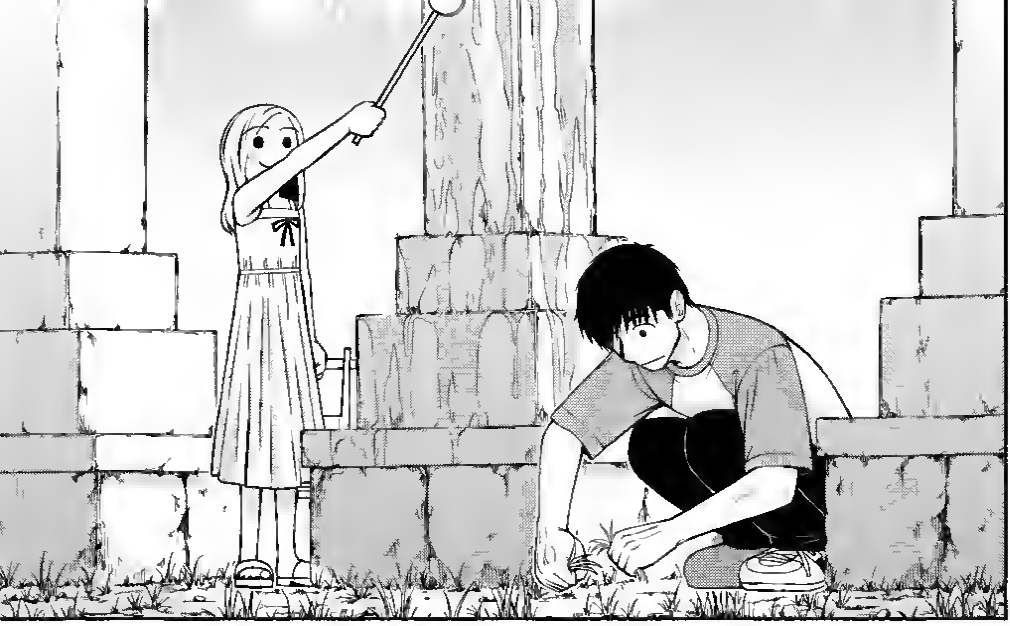


SIGN: SHIMAZAKI FAMILY GRAVE



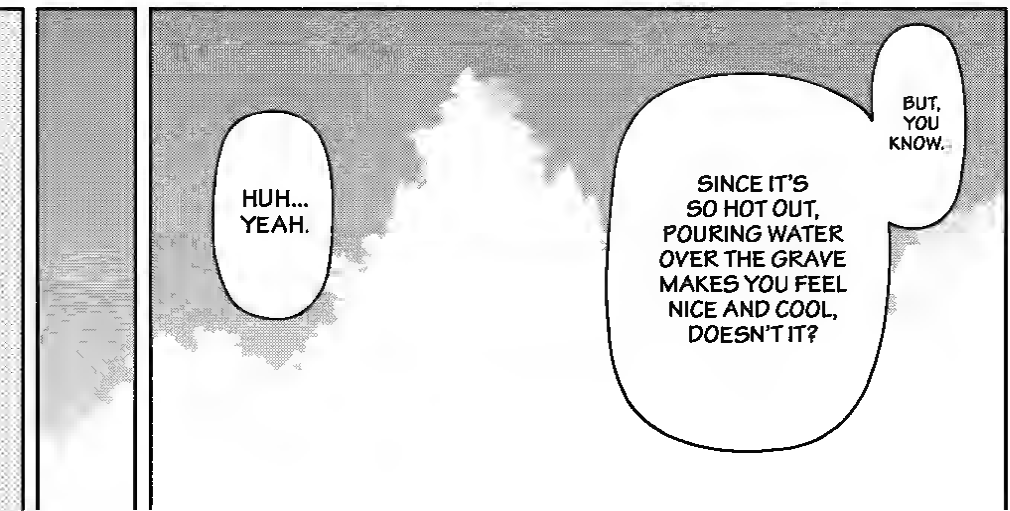


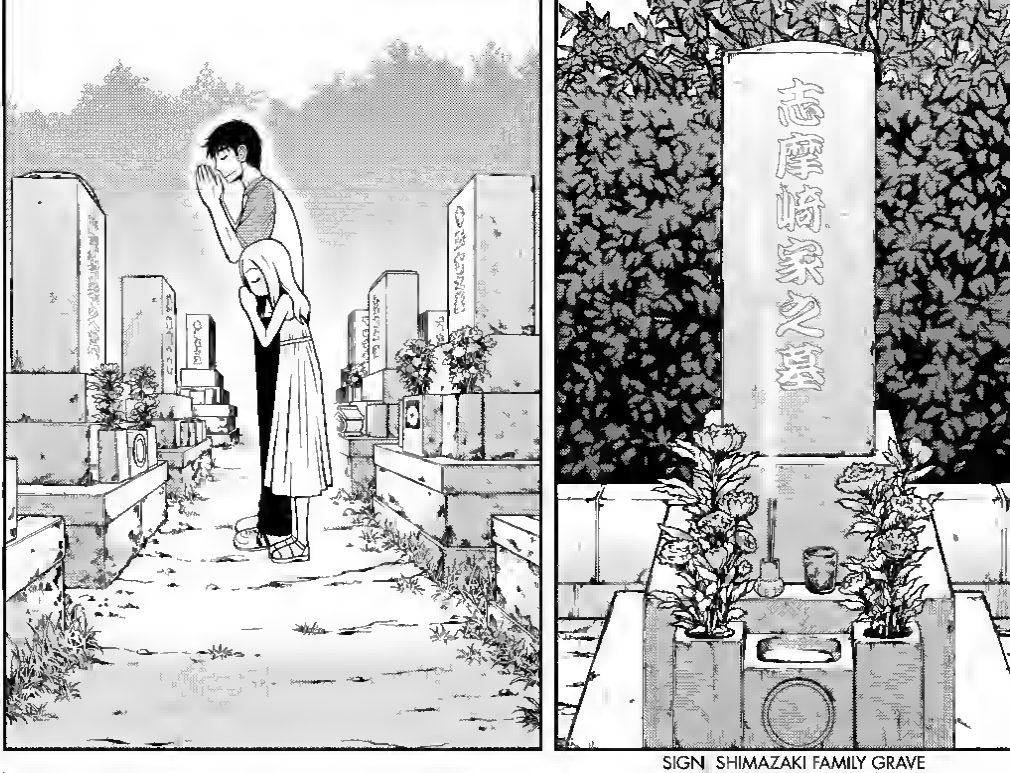




I'M DON'T REALLY KNOW, EITHER.
HMM...

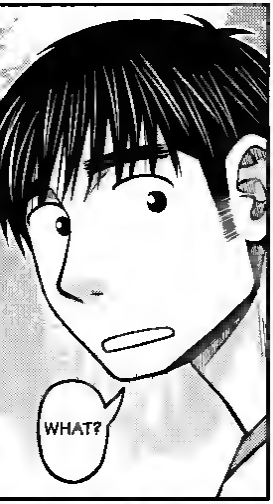
WHY ARE WE GIVING WATER TO THE GRAVE?
SHUTARO

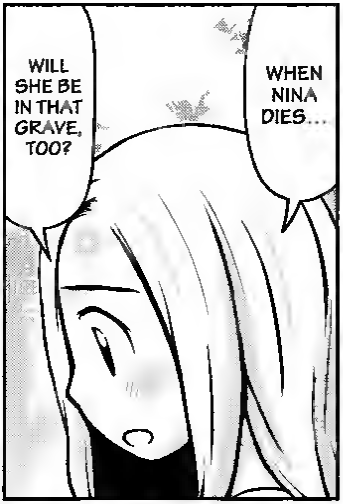

HUH... YEAH.
SINCE IT'S SO HOT OUT, POURING WATER OVER THE GRAVE MAKES YOU FEEL NICE AND COOL, DOESN'T IT?
BUT, YOU KNOW...



SIGN SHIMAZAKI FAMILY GRAVE

HM?
SHUTARO

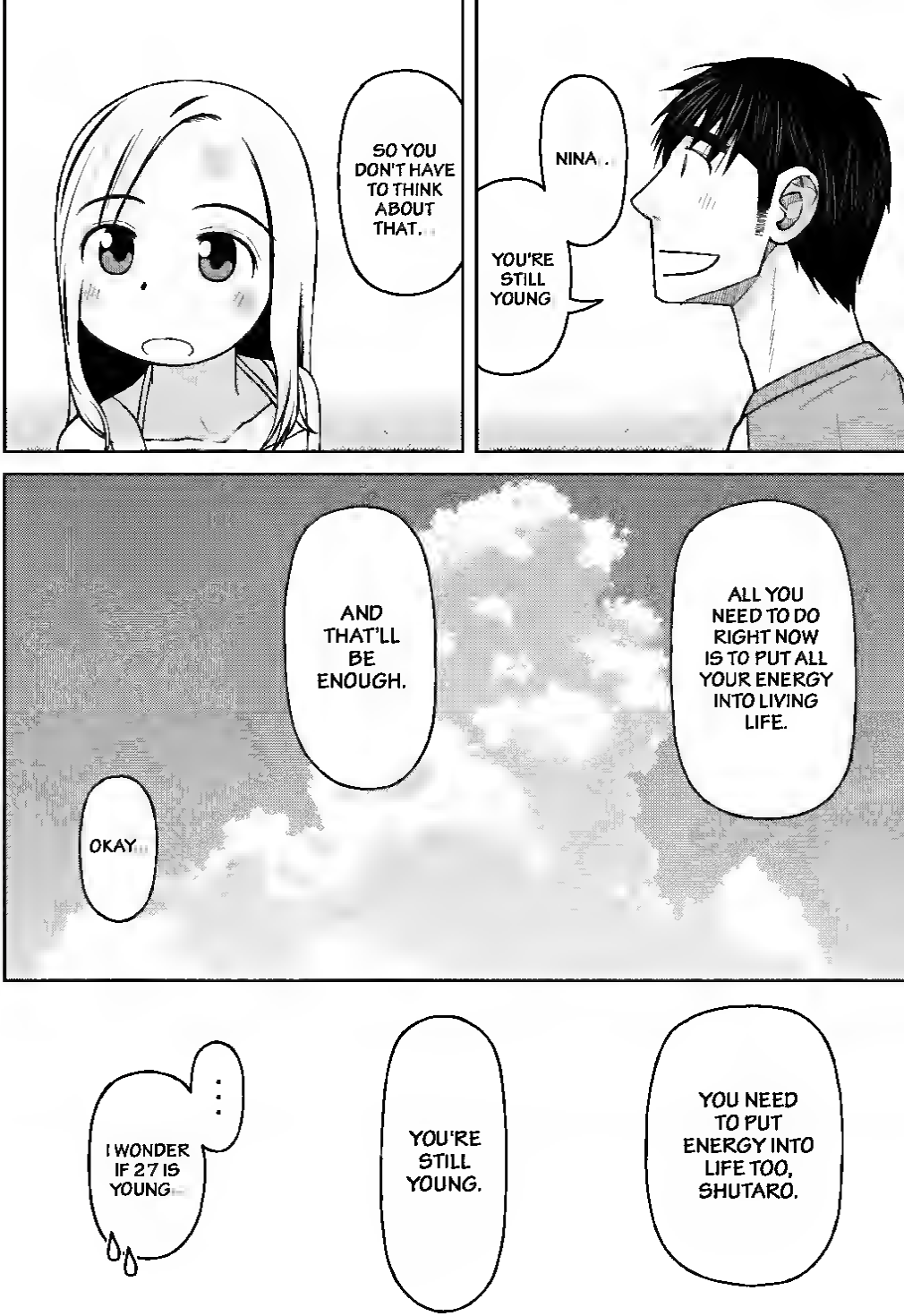

WHAT?

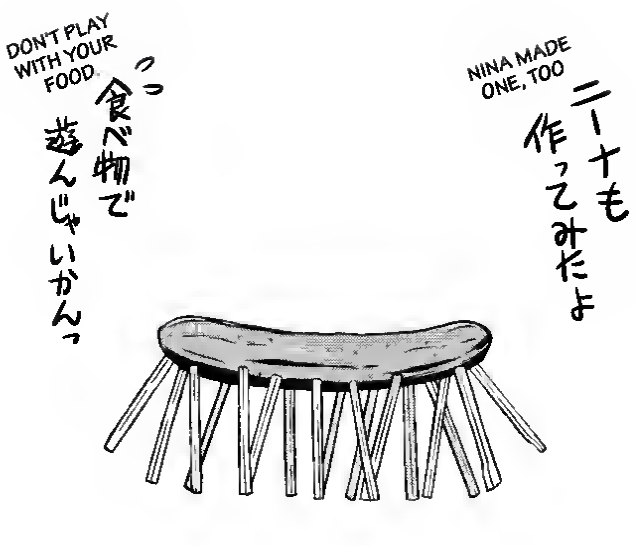

WILL SHE BE IN THAT GRAVE, TOO?
WHEN NINA DIES...

OH...
I THINK YOU'LL PROBABLY END UP IN THE GRAVE OF THE FAMILY YOU MARRY INTO.
HMM... WELL...

BUT NINA...
WANTS TO BE IN THE SAME GRAVE AS YOU, SHUTARO.

HUH?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
HA HA
HMMM...
HOW TO SAY THIS...
DID NINA SAY SOMETHING FUNNY?
SORRY!
YOU ARE FAMILY. SO I GUESS YOU'D WANT TO BE TOGETHER

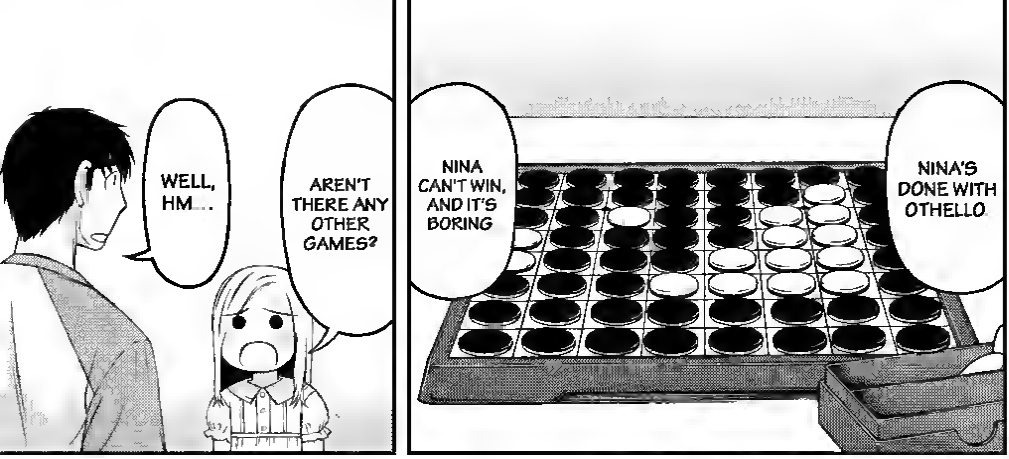

NINA...
YOU'RE STILL YOUNG
SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO THINK ABOUT THAT...
ALL YOU NEED TO DO RIGHT NOW IS TO PUT ALL YOUR ENERGY INTO LIVING LIFE.
AND THAT'LL BE ENOUGH.
OKAY...
YOU NEED TO PUT ENERGY INTO LIFE TOO, SHUTARO.
YOU'RE STILL YOUNG.
I WONDER IF 27 IS YOUNG...

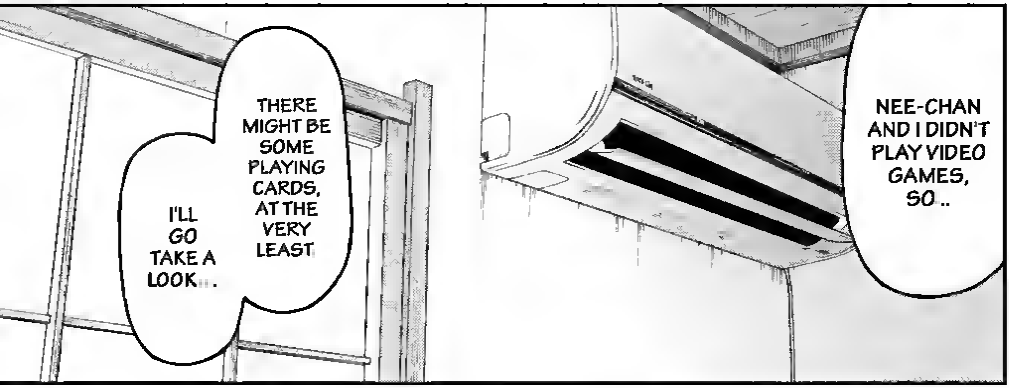

DON'T PLAY WITH YOUR FOOD.
食べ物で遊んじゃいかんっ
NINA MADE ONE, TOO
ニーナも作ってみたよ

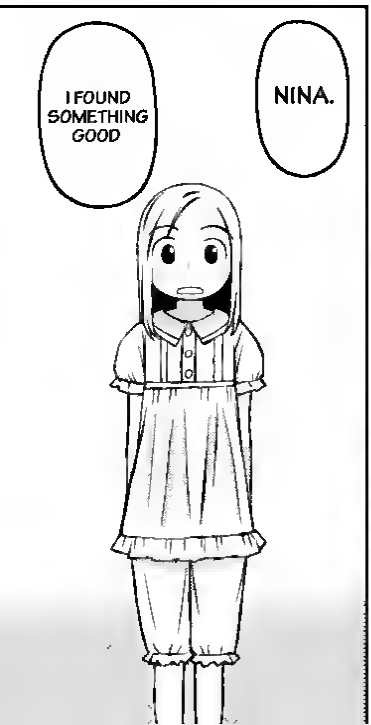
CHAPTER 20

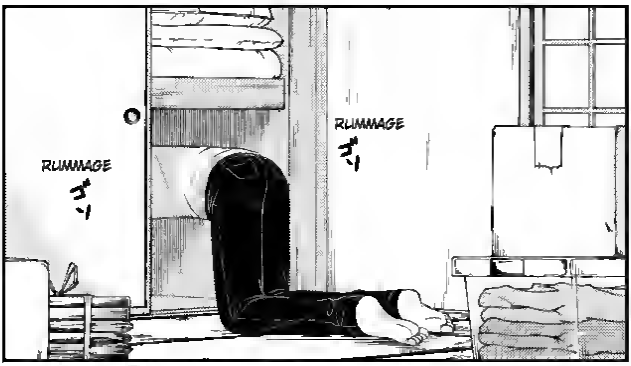
A BOARD GAME OF DREAMS

UGH!
NINA CAN'T WIN AGAINST YOU AT ALL, SHUTARO!
WHY?!
I THOUGHT THE RULES OF OTHELLO WOULD BE SIMPLE ENOUGH...
ARE YOU NOT GOOD AT THESE KIND OF GAMES, NINA?
GRRR.
SHUTARO, ARE YOU CHEATING SOMEHOW?
NO, I'M NOT.

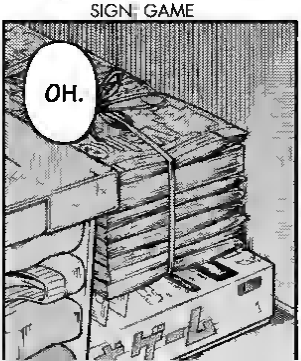

WELL, HM....
AREN'T THERE ANY OTHER GAMES?
NINA CAN'T WIN, AND IT'S BORING
NINA'S DONE WITH OTHELLO


I'LL GO TAKE A LOOK...
THERE MIGHT BE SOME PLAYING CARDS, AT THE VERY LEAST
NEE-CHAN AND I DIDN'T PLAY VIDEO GAMES, SO ..

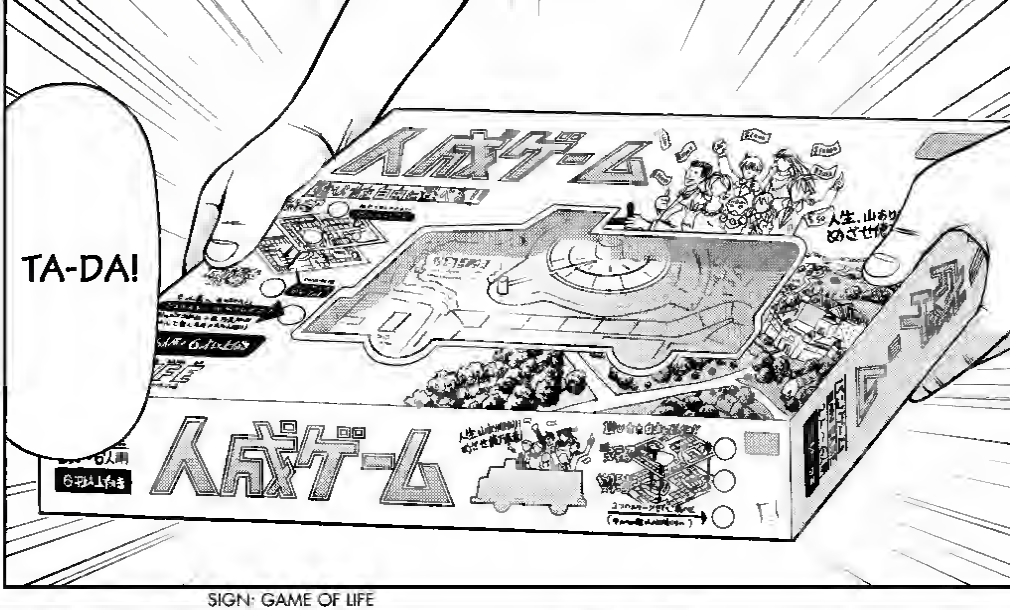

NINA.
I FOUND SOMETHING GOOD


RUMMAGE
RUMMAGE

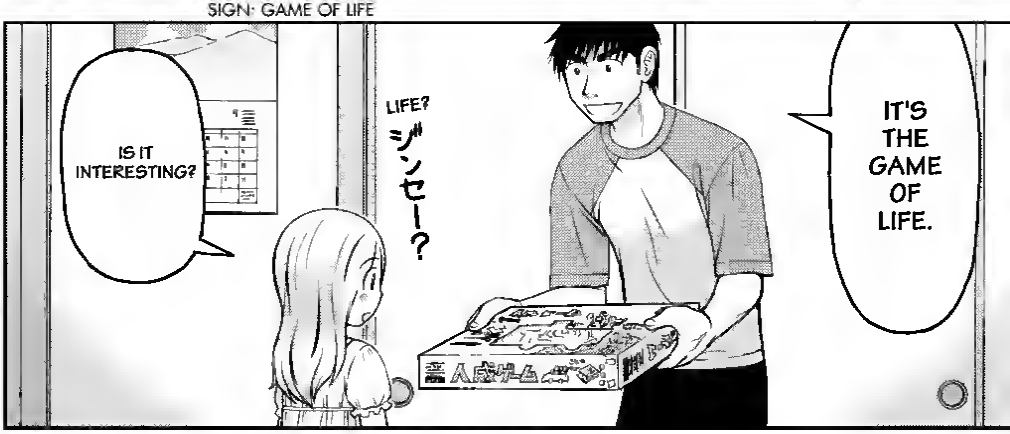
SIGN: GAME


OH.

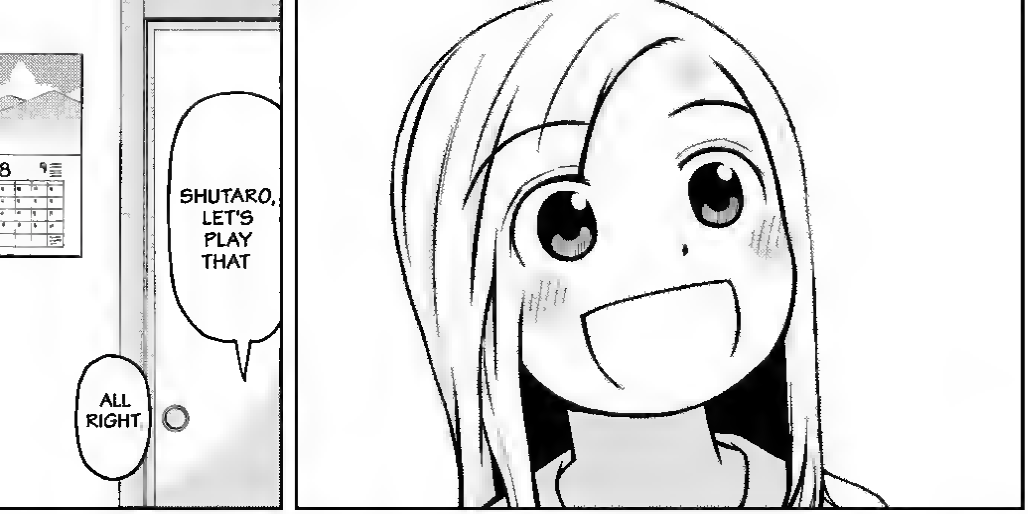
HM?

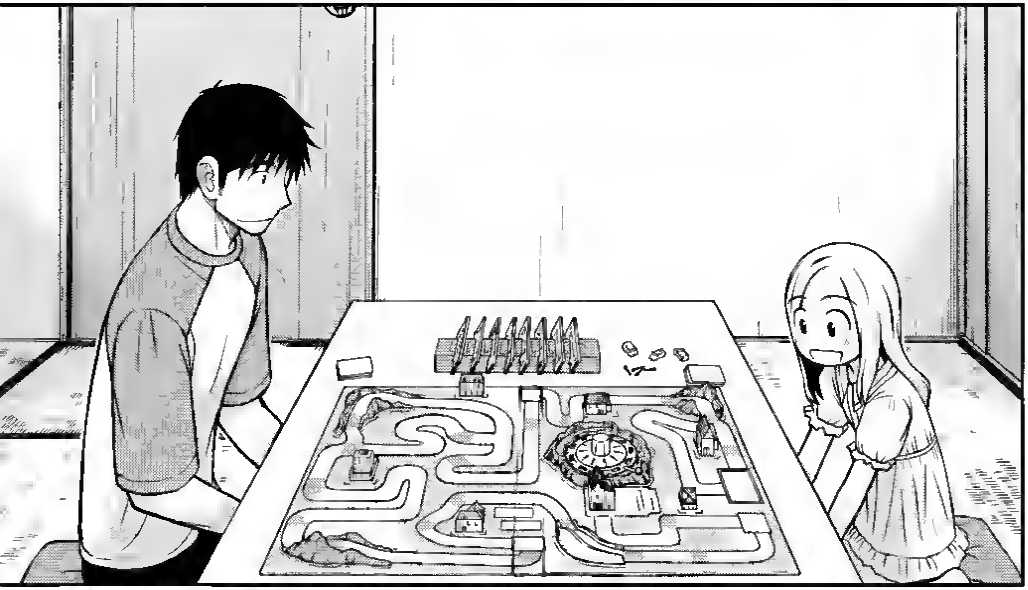


SIGN: GAME OF LIFE

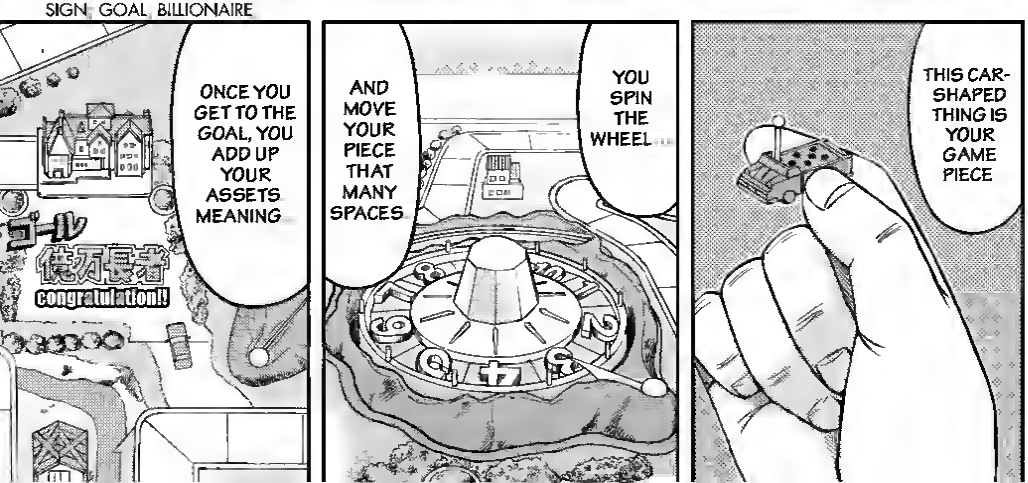


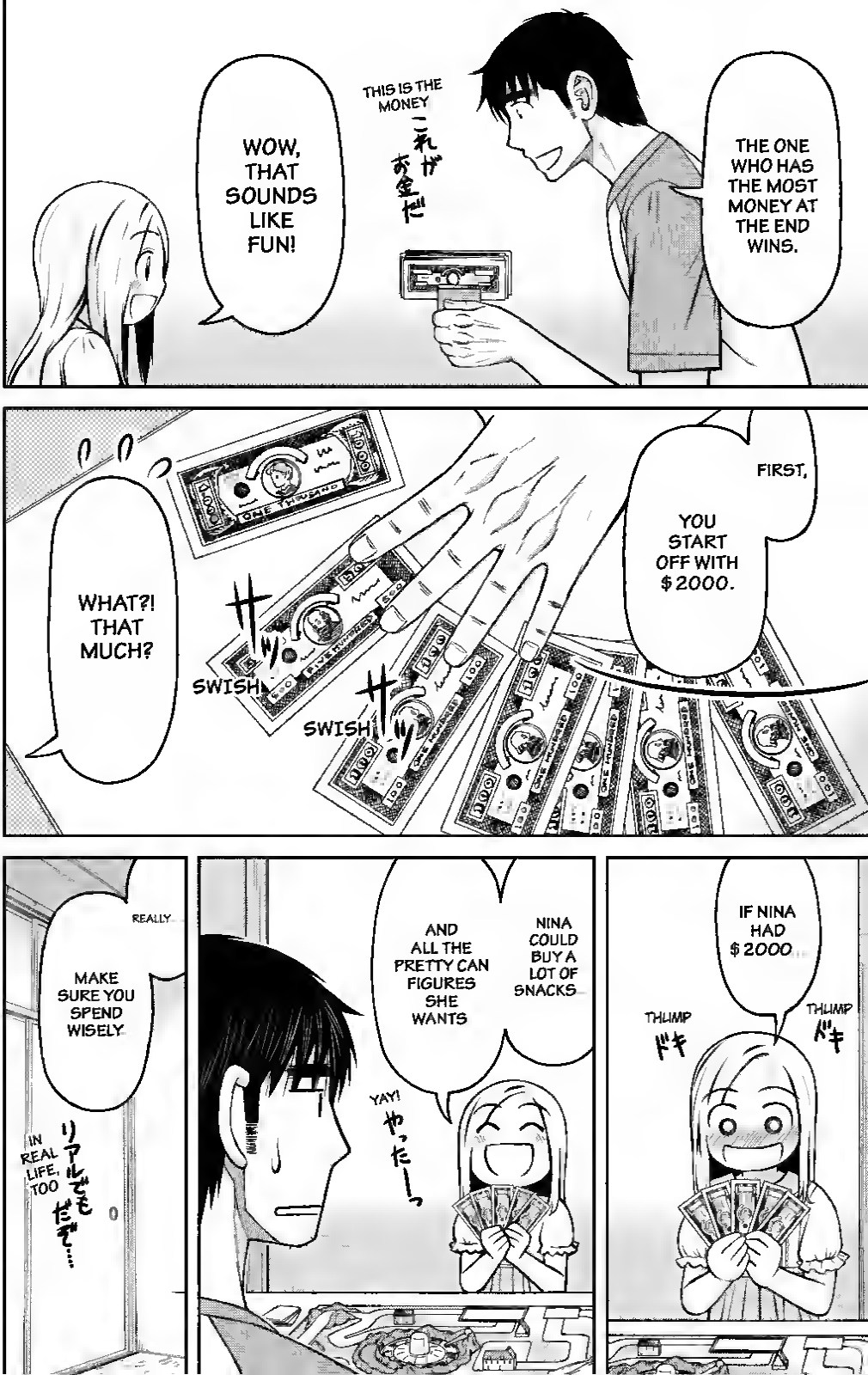
COME TO THINK OF IT, I MAY NOT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO BEAT HER
YEAH
WAS MOMMY GOOD AT IT?
I USED TO PLAY THIS GAME WITH NEE-CHAN ALL THE TIME
YEAH, IT'S COOL





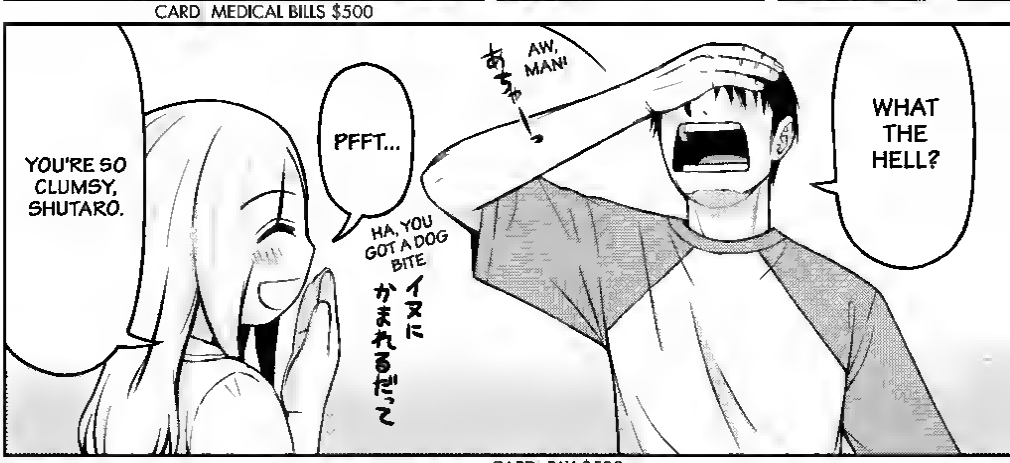
SIGN GOAL BILLIONAIRE


ONCE YOU GET TO THE GOAL, YOU ADD UP YOUR ASSETS MEANING
ゴール
億万長者
congratulation!
AND MOVE YOUR PIECE THAT MANY SPACES
YOU SPIN THE WHEEL...
THIS CAR-SHAPED THING IS YOUR GAME PIECE

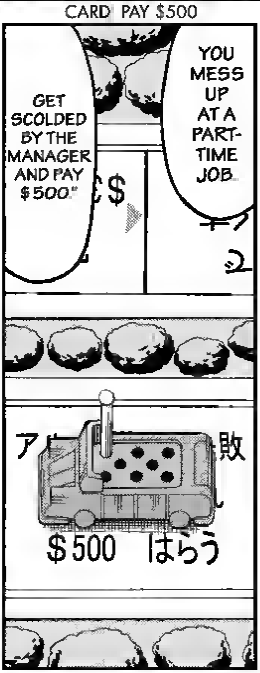

THIS IS THE MONEY
これがお金だ
WOW, THAT SOUNDS LIKE FUN!
THE ONE WHO HAS THE MOST MONEY AT THE END WINS.
FIRST, YOU START OFF WITH $2000.
WHAT?! THAT MUCH?
SWISH
SWISH
IF NINA HAD $2000...
THUMP ドキ
THUMP ドキ
NINA COULD BUY A LOT OF SNACKS
AND ALL THE PRETTY CAN FIGURES SHE WANTS
YAY! やったー!
REALLY
MAKE SURE YOU SPEND WISELY
IN REAL LIFE, TOO リアルでもだぞ…

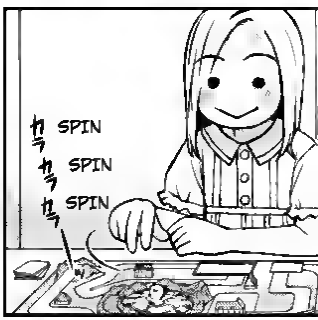
ALL RIGHT, YOU SPIN THE WHEEL FIRST, NINA.
OKAY.
THERE.
SPIN
SPIN
SPIN
FIVE.
1
2
3
4
5.
CARD: RECEIVE $1,000
SHUTARO, WHAT DOES THIS SAY?
LET'S SEE...
$1,000もらう
RECEIVE $1,000 IN SCHOLAR-SHIP MONEY.
YAY!
MY TURN NEXT.

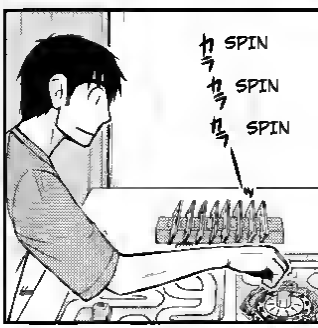
CARD: MEDICAL BILLS $500



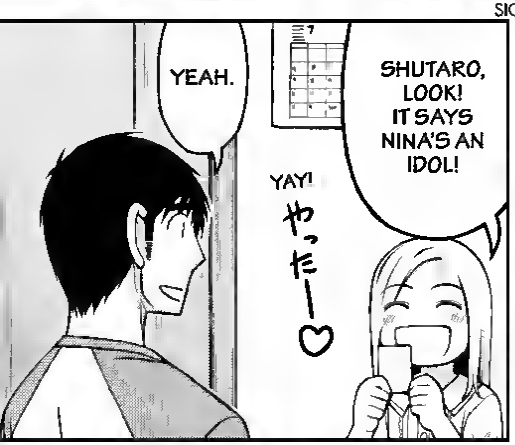
CARD: PAY $500

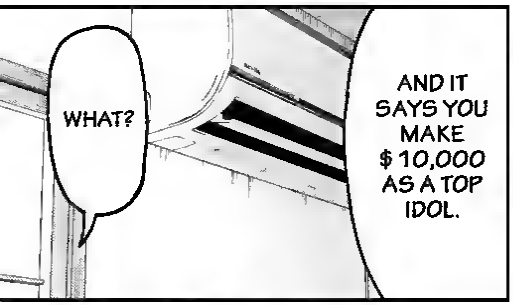


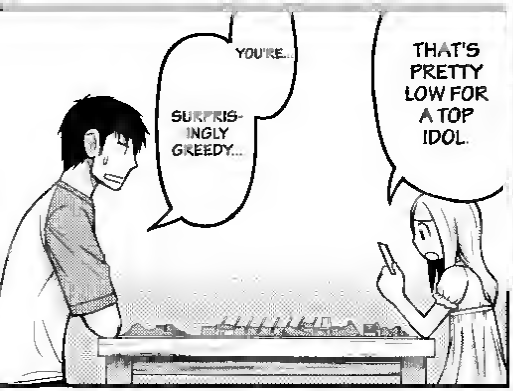


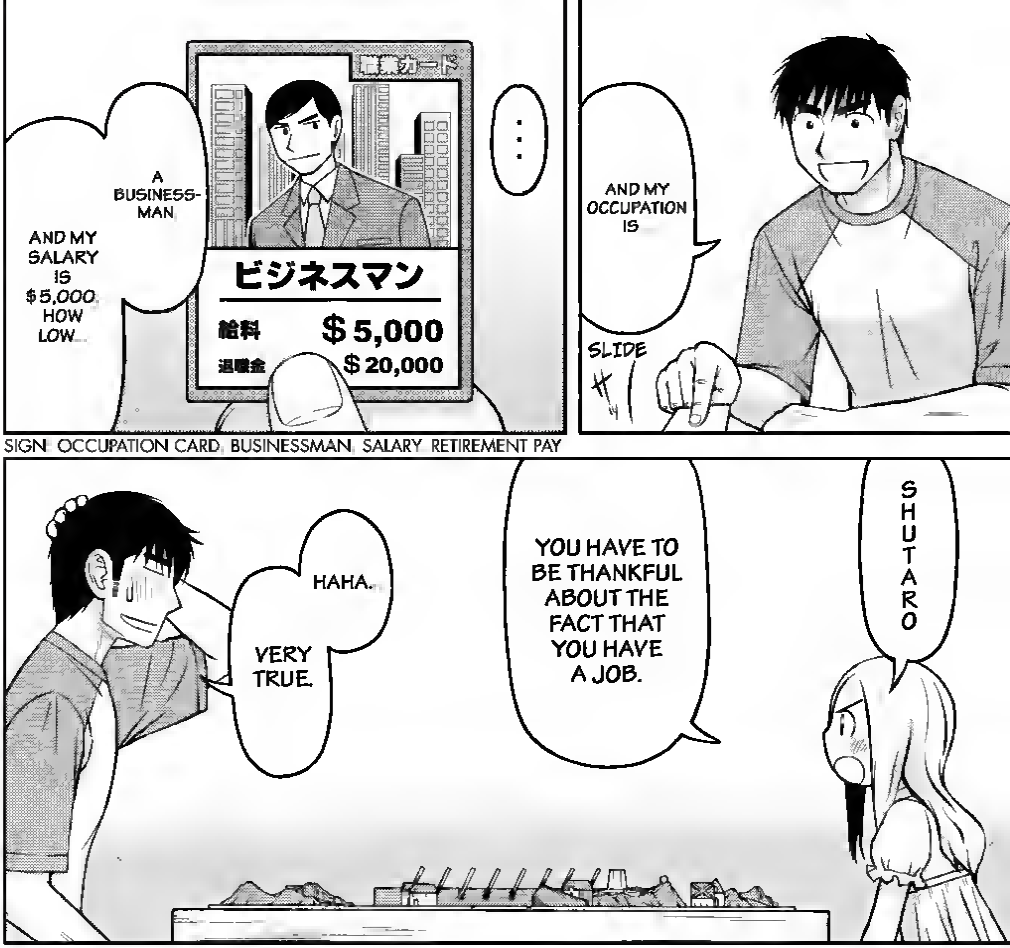


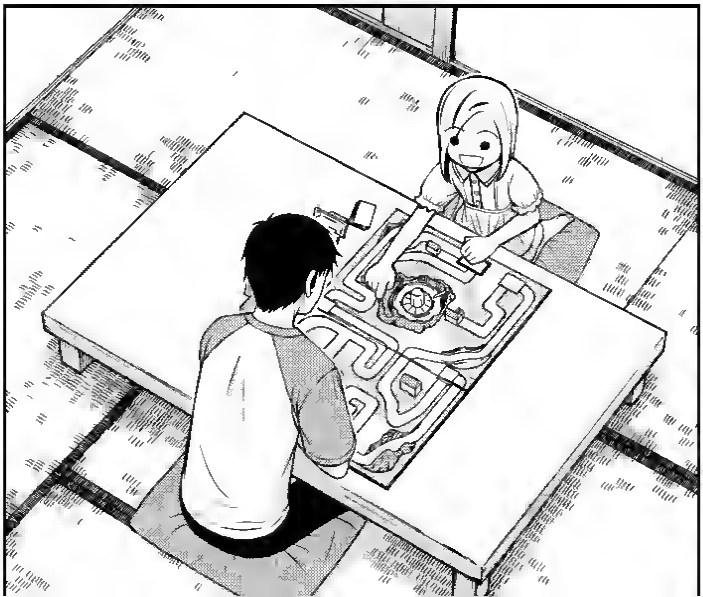
SIGN OCCUPATION CARD, TOP IDOL, SALARY, RETIREMENT PAY





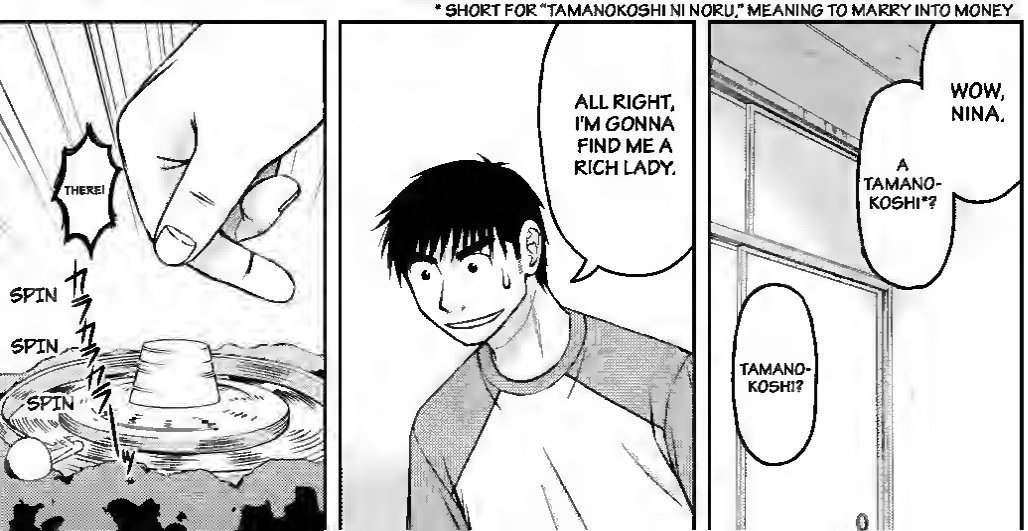



AND MY OCCUPATION IS...
SLIDE
...
A BUSINESS-MAN
AND MY SALARY IS $5,000. HOW LOW...
職業カード
ビジネスマン
給料 $5,000
退職金 $20,000
SIGN OCCUPATION CARD BUSINESSMAN SALARY RETIREMENT PAY
SHUTARO
YOU HAVE TO BE THANKFUL ABOUT THE FACT THAT YOU HAVE A JOB.
HAHA.
VERY TRUE.

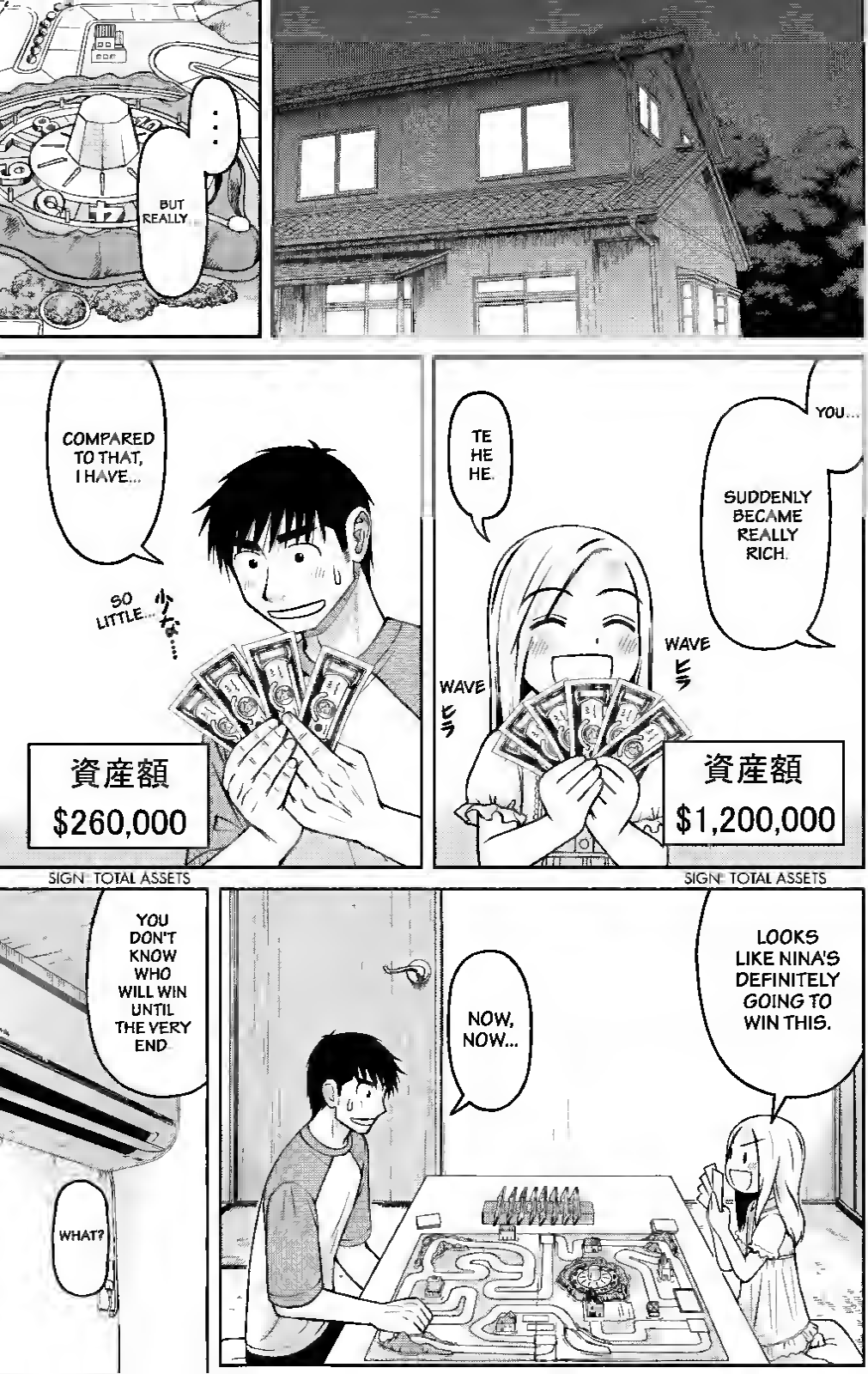


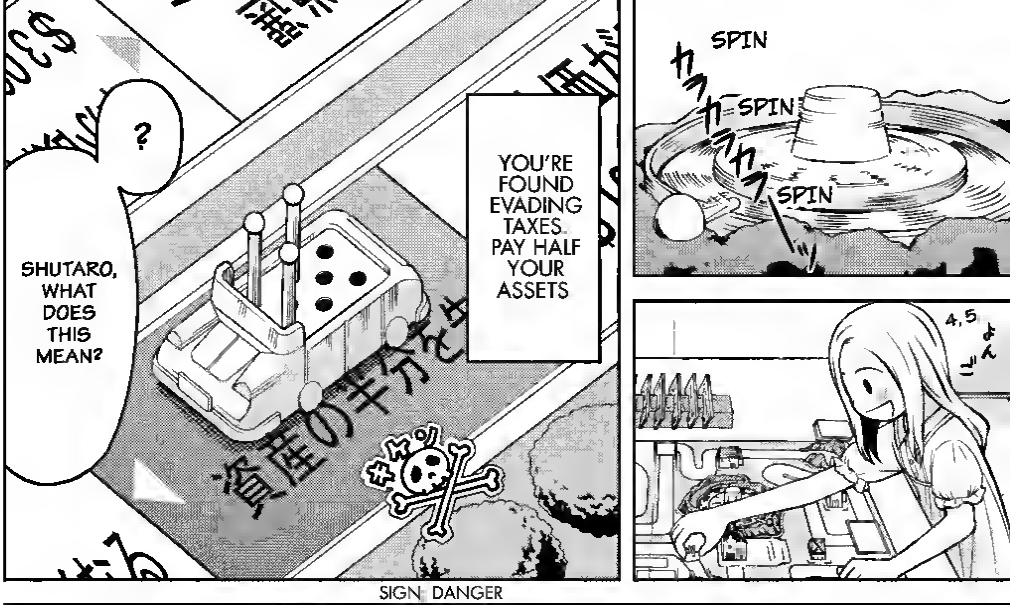
* A HANDSOME, GOOD-LOOKING GUY

* SHORT FOR "TAMANOKOSHI NI NORU," MEANING TO MARRY INTO MONEY

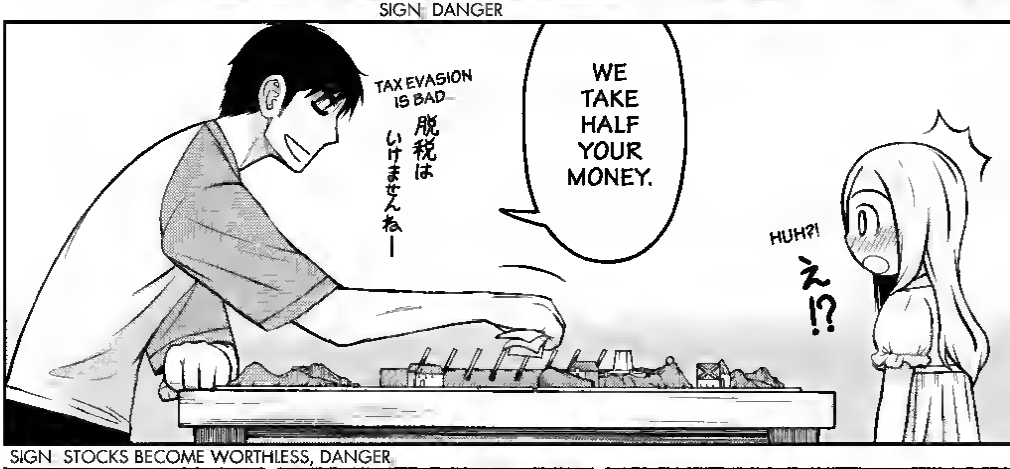


OH!
RECEIVE $1,000 TO PREPARE." HUH...
HOW DULL.
"YOU MARRY THE POSTER GIRL OF A CAFÉ...
HEY.
コラッ
THAT'S NOT IT.
SO YOU ANO TOMOE WILL GET MARRIED.
THIS IS TALKING ABOUT TOMOE
THAT'S WAY TOO MANY...
わーWOW
THIS IS OUR 5TH ONE..
"YOU RECEIVE $10,000 FROM EVERYONE IN CELEBRATION OF YOUR NEW CHILD."
WHAT?!
AGAIN?
NINA WANTS A BIG FAMILY
家族いっぱいでいいなー
TOMOE SURE HAS A LOT OF BABIES

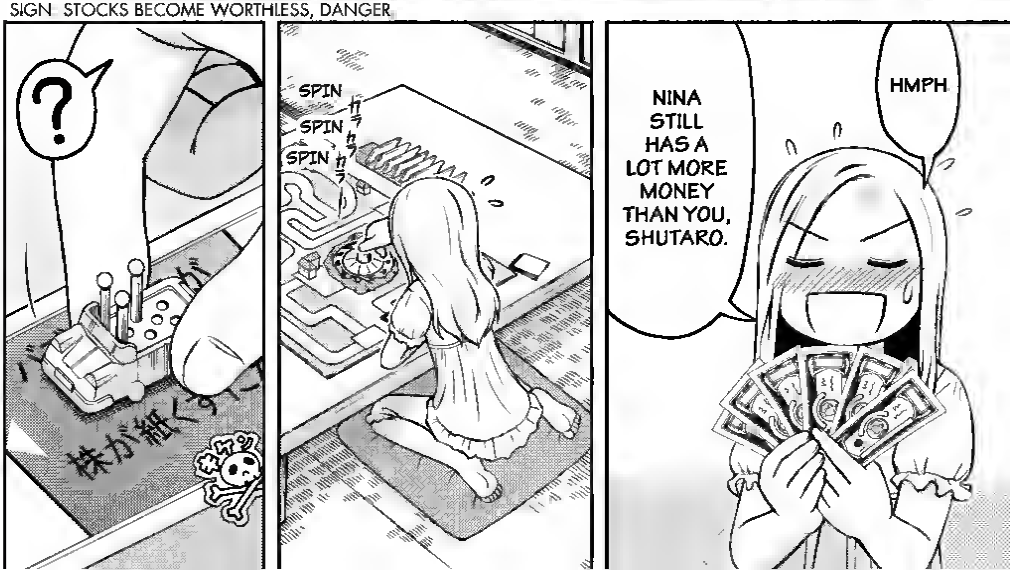

BUT REALLY...
COMPARED TO THAT, I HAVE...
SO LITTLE... 少な...
資産額
$260,000
TE HE HE.
YOU...
SUDDENLY BECAME REALLY RICH.
WAVE ヒラ
WAVE ヒラ
資産額
$1,200,000
SIGN: TOTAL ASSETS
SIGN: TOTAL ASSETS
YOU DON'T KNOW WHO WILL WIN UNTIL THE VERY END
WHAT?
NOW, NOW...
LOOKS LIKE NINA'S DEFINITELY GOING TO WIN THIS.



SIGN: DANGER

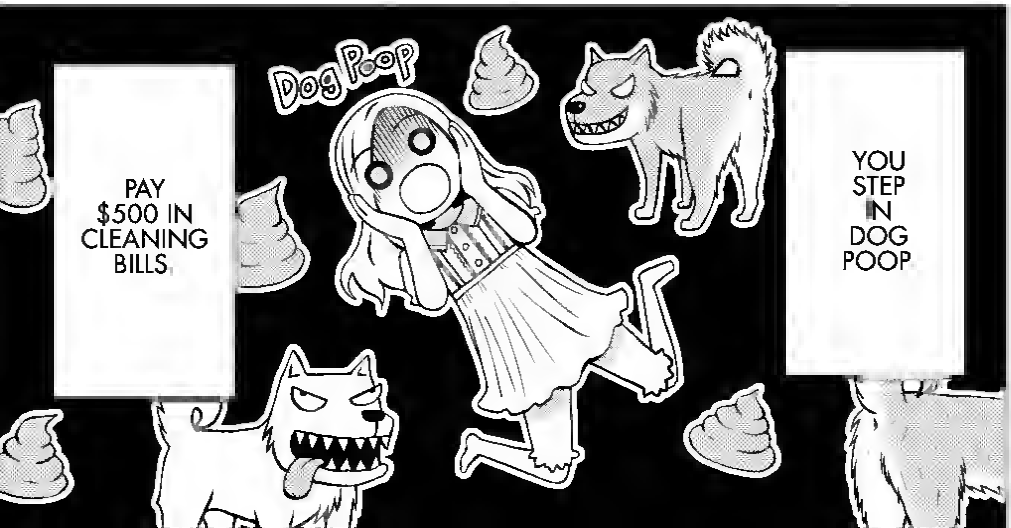


SIGN: STOCKS BECOME WORTHLESS, DANGER

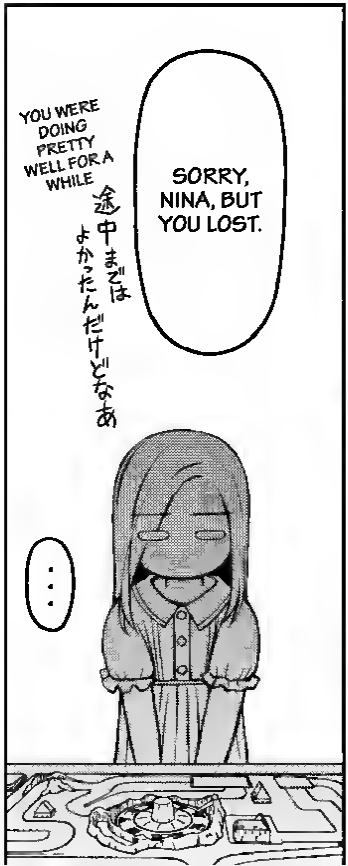


WHAT?!
"ERGONOMIC BUBBLE?"
バブルケーキ?
WHAT'S THAT?!
なにそれ?
THE ECONOMIC BUBBLE BURSTS YOUR STOCKS BECOME WORTHLESS.

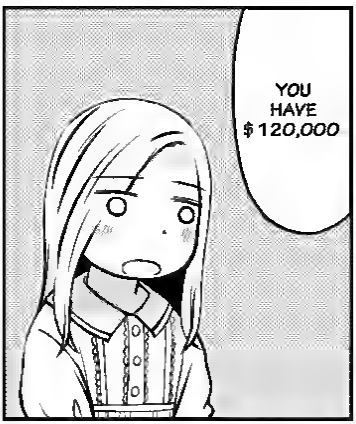
WHAT?!
HEHEHE. I TOTALLY GOT A SCOOP!
フヒヒ スクープゲットだぜ!!
THE PAPARAZZI GET A JUICY PHOTO OF YOU. YOU TUMBLE DOWN THE IDOL RANKS.


PAY $500 IN CLEANING BILLS.
Dog Poop
YOU STEP IN DOG POOP

SHAKE
ブル
SHAKE
ブル
SHAKE
ブル
HA HA.
TALK ABOUT A FALL FROM GRACE.
犬のうんことかよ…
SO YOU GOT THE DOG-POOP

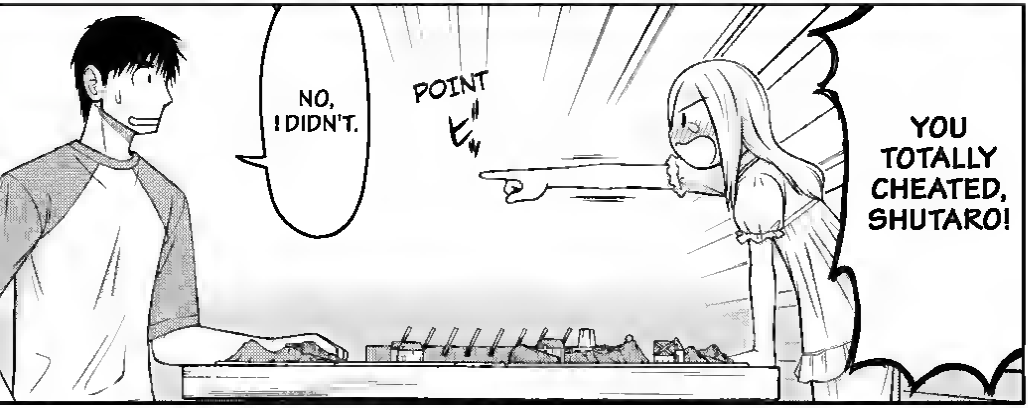

SORRY, NINA, BUT YOU LOST.
YOU WERE DOING PRETTY WELL FOR A WHILE
途中まではよかったんだけどなあ
…

I HAVE $250,000, AND

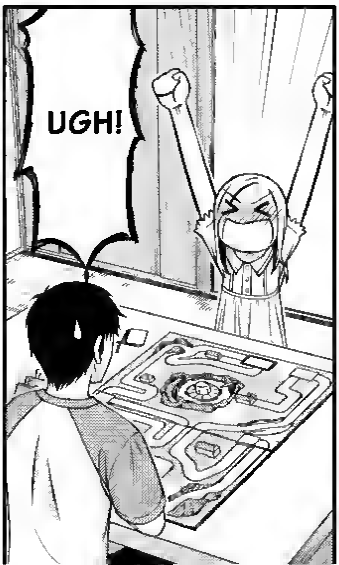

YOU HAVE $120,000

NOW WE'RE BOTH AT THE GOAL.
AND OUR TOTAL ASSETS ARE
ゴール

UGH!
FLAIL
FLAIL
FLAIL


YOU TOTALLY CHEATED, SHUTARO!
POINT
NO, I DIDN'T.

THESE ARE JUST THINGS THAT HAPPENED IN THE GAME.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.


UGH!

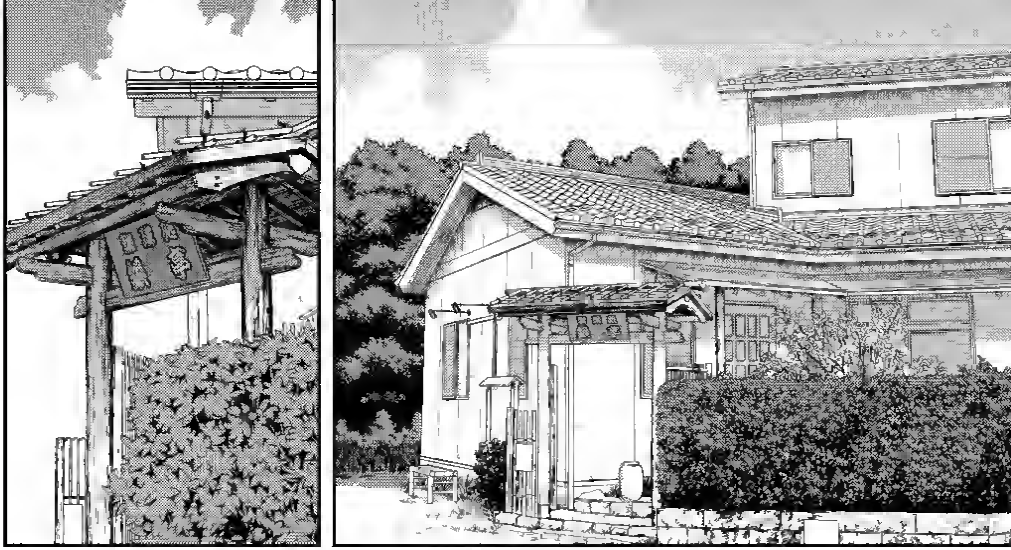
EVEN IF NINA BECAME AN IDOL, NINA WOULDN'T HAVE ANY SCANDALS
NINA WOULDN'T STEP IN DOG POOP EITHER.

UH...
STAB
SHUTARO IS ACTUALLY JOBLESS IN REAL LIFE.
OH YEAH
UGH! I'M SO FRUSTRATED!
I GET TO HAVE DREAMS IN THE GAME, AT LEAST...
HA HA...
RIGHT.
HA HA...
NO!
NINA WANTS TO PLAY AGAIN!
IT'S PRETTY LATE, SO ..
TOMORROW
SHUTARO, LET'S PLAY AGAIN!
OKAY?!

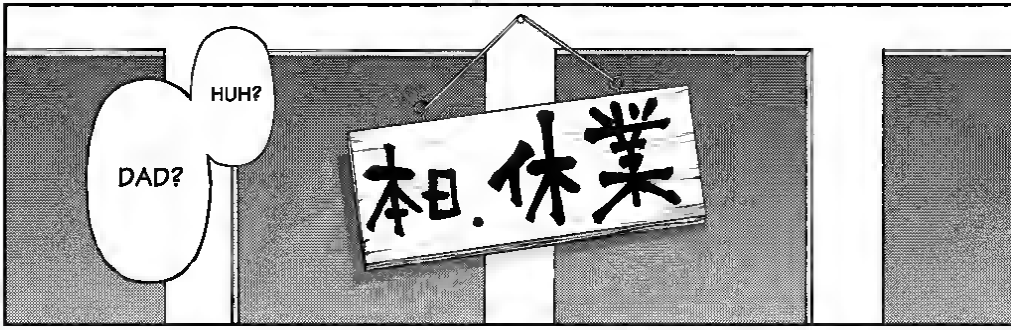
WHA?!
え!?
SHUTARO, LIFE IS PRETTY HARD, ISN'T IT?
シュータロー
ジンセーってムズかしいものなんだね

CHAPTER 21

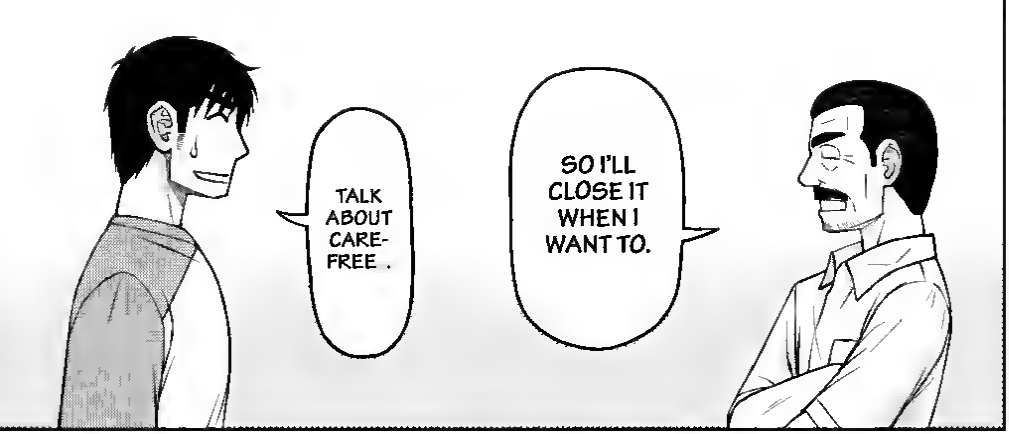
FAMILY TIME



SIGN CLOSED TODAY

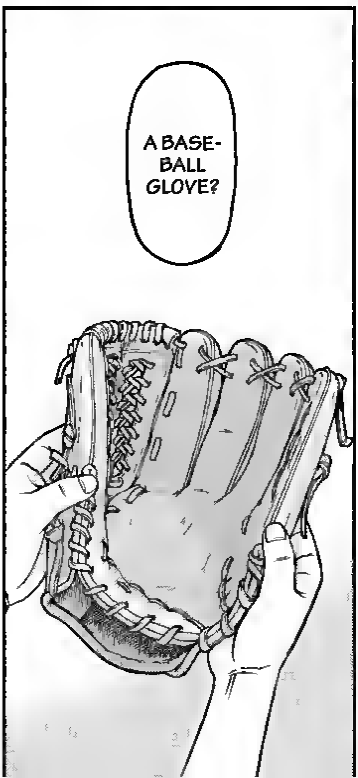


SIGN CLOSED TODAY


TALK ABOUT CARE-FREE .
SO I'LL CLOSE IT WHEN I WANT TO.

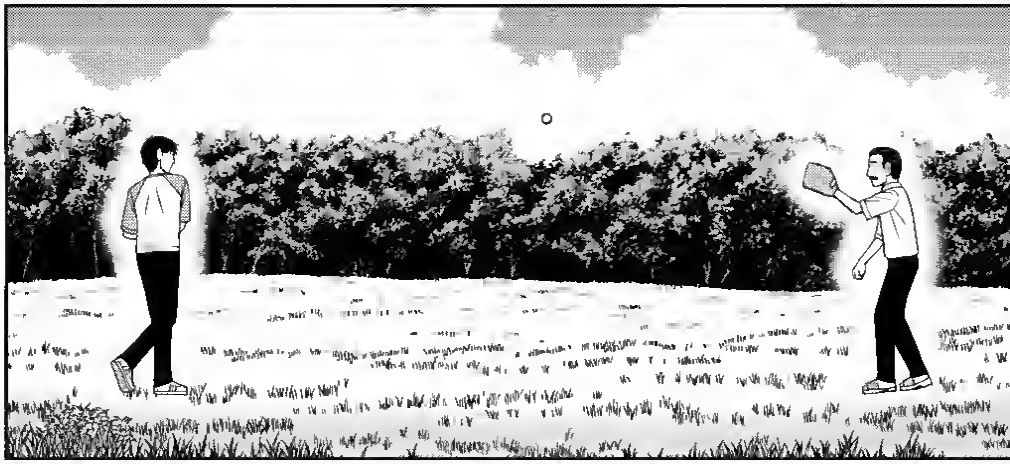
HM?
WHAT?
SHUTARO,
ARE YOU BUSY RIGHT NOW?

HANG OUT WITH ME FOR A BIT.


A BASE-BALL GLOVE?

HERE

WHOA
GRAB



CATCH
ﾊﾞｼｯ

THROW
ﾋｭｯ

HERE
DAD,
THIS GLOVE IS PRETTY SOFT.
DO YOU USE IT A LOT?
CATCH
NICE THROW
AND MY POSITION
IS SHORT-STOP
THAT'S A PRETTY GOOD POSITION
YEAH.
I'M PART OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION'S BASEBALL TEAM
WHAT?!
REALLY?
AND YOU?
THROW
WHY DON'T YOU JOIN, TOO?
I'M NOT JOINING
CATCH

WHAT?
TOMOE IS?
IT'S PRETTY FUN.
TOMOE-CHAN'S A PART OF IT, TOO.
TOMOE-CHAN ALSO LOOKS REALLY CUTE IN THE UNIFORM
...
I'LL PASS
TOO MUCH WORK.
DON'T PUSH YOURSELF TOO HARD...
DAD
I'LL BE FINE.
HA HA HA
はは
トシなんだし...
YOU'RE OLD
OH, YOU DIDN'T KNOW?
TOMOE-CHAN MANAGES OUR TEAM SOMETIMES.
おじさん ガンバレー
YOU CAN DO IT!

YEAH.
I HEARD YOU FOUND A PART-TIME JOB.
BY THE WAY, SHUTARO

EH...
BUT THAT'S NOT GOING TO LAST VERY LONG, IS IT?

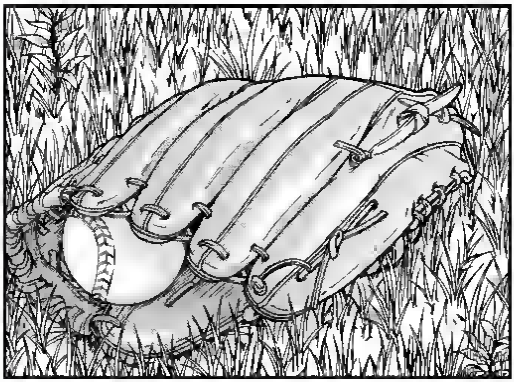
CATCH
I'M GOING TO HELP HARVEST SOME CABBAGE

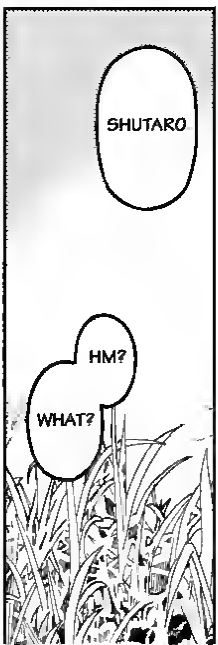
YOU KNOW THAT IT'S NOT THAT EASY...

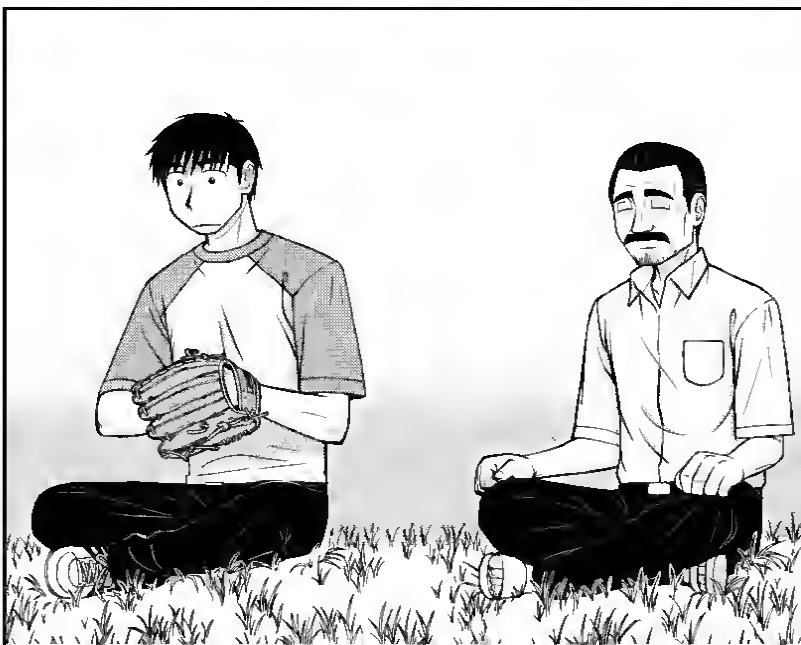
IF I CAN FIND A NEW POSITION THAT WAY...
I WAS THINKING ABOUT REACHING OUT TO OLD FRIENDS...

WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO AFTER THAT?
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS?
...

OH...
SORRY, MY BAD!
HEY! WATCH WHERE YOU'RE THROWING!
IDIOT!
I KNOW THAT...
!




SHUTARO
HM?
WHAT?

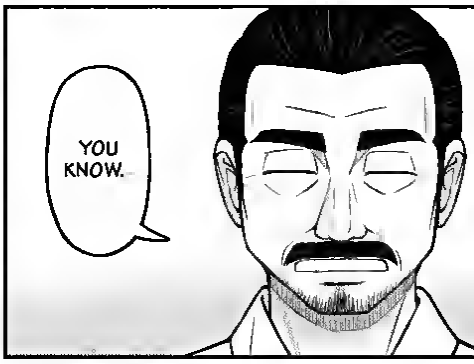


WHERE'D THAT COME FROM?
I HAVE SOMETHING I NEED TO TELL YOU.
WHA?
I'M NOT GIVING YOU MY SHOP.
I DON'T WANT IT ANYWAY.
SO, I'M NOT GIVING IT TO ANYONE.
IT'S LIKE MY CASTLE.
I BUILT IT SO I COULD ENJOY IT WHEN I GOT OLDER.

I DON'T INTEND TO TAKE OVER THE CAFÉ.
YOU DON'T WANT IT?
OH?

I SEE...
I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO SERVE THE CUSTOMERS ANYWAY.

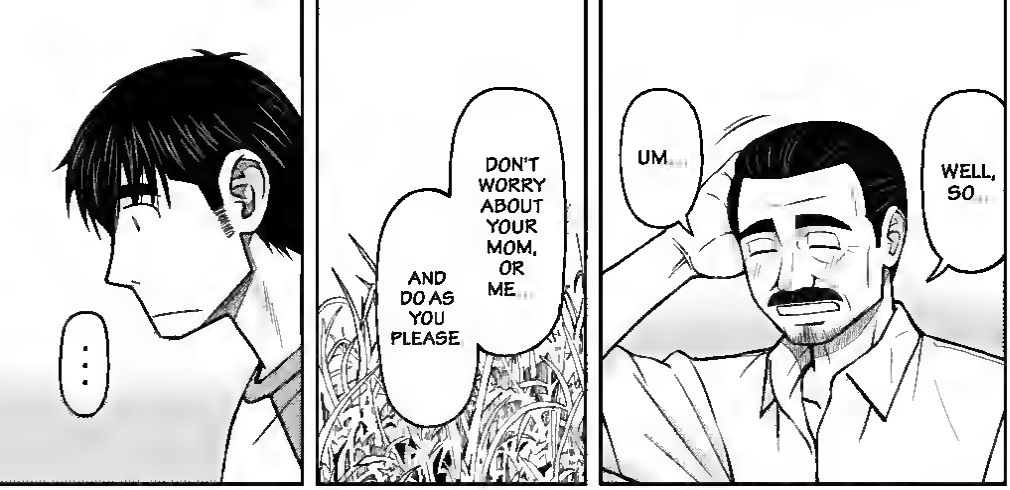
THANK-FULLY...
NEITHER YOU NOR YOKO BECAME SERIOUSLY ILL, AND YOU BOTH GREW INTO WONDERFUL ADULTS.

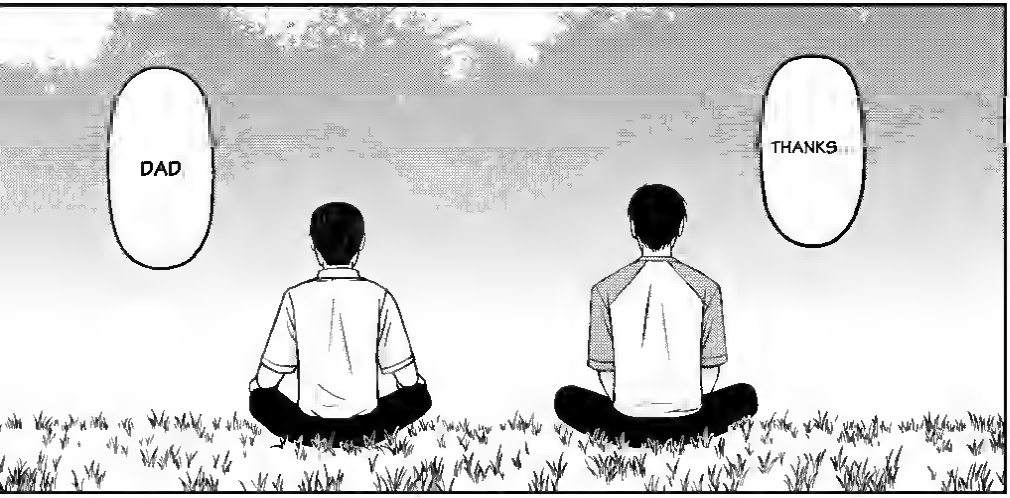

YOU KNOW...

I WORKED HARD AS A CHEF
UNTIL YOU AND YOKO GREW UP.
"心に何の話だ"?
WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?

I'M DOING AS I PLEASE.
THAT'S WHY I QUIT BEING A CHEF FIVE YEARS AGO...
AND OPENED THE SHOP THAT I HAD ALWAYS WANTED TO HAVE
YOUR MOTHER IS LETTING ME DO WHAT I WANT.
AND YOKO IS ALSO
DOING AS SHE PLEASES.

SO, YOU SHOULD DO THE SAME.
IF YOU WANT TO RETURN TO TOKYO, THAT'S FINE.
IF YOU END UP STAYING HERE, THAT'S FINE, TOO.
IF YOU MARRY TOMOE-CHAN...
AND TAKE HER FAMILY NAME, I ALSO WOULDN'T MIND.
WHA?
WHY DID TOMOE COME UP THERE?
AREN'T YOU GUYS GOING OUT?
NO!

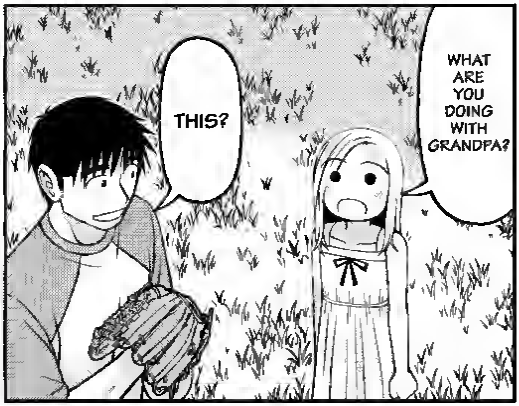

...
DON'T WORRY ABOUT YOUR MOM, OR ME...
AND DO AS YOU PLEASE.
UM...
WELL, SO...


DAD
THANKS...

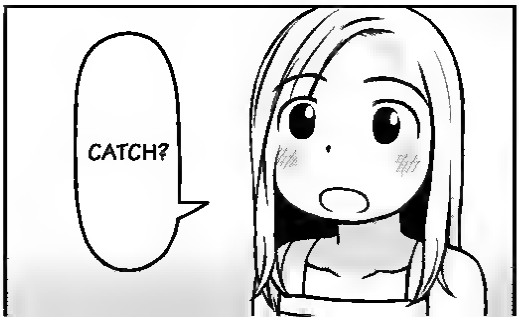
YOU ARE GOOD.
お前やっぱり
YOU SURE YOU DON'T WANNA JOIN OUR TEAM?
ウチのチームに入らないか?
I ALREADY SAID NO...
それはもういいって...

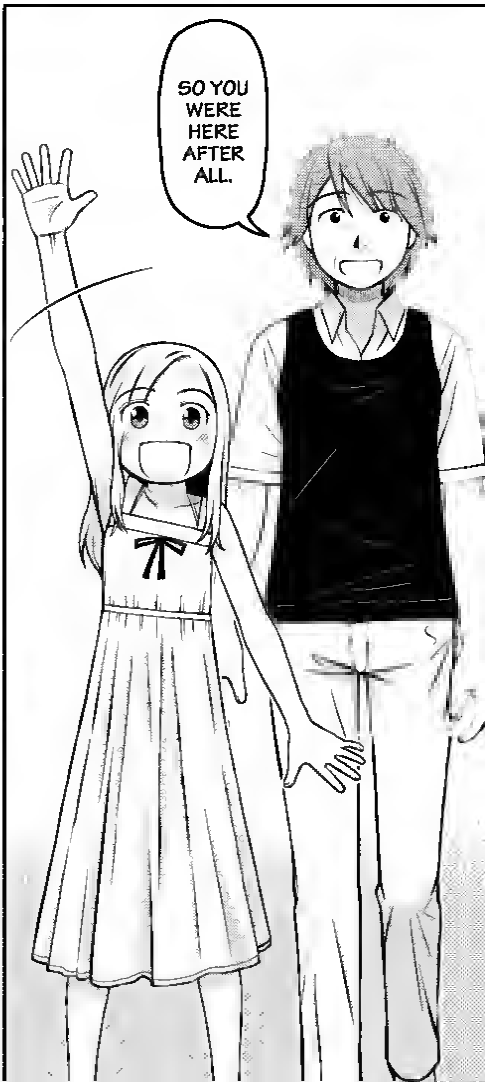
DAD,
LET'S PLAY CATCH FOR A LITTLE LONGER.
SURE

SHUTARO!


WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH GRANDPA?
THIS?

WE'RE PLAYING CATCH.

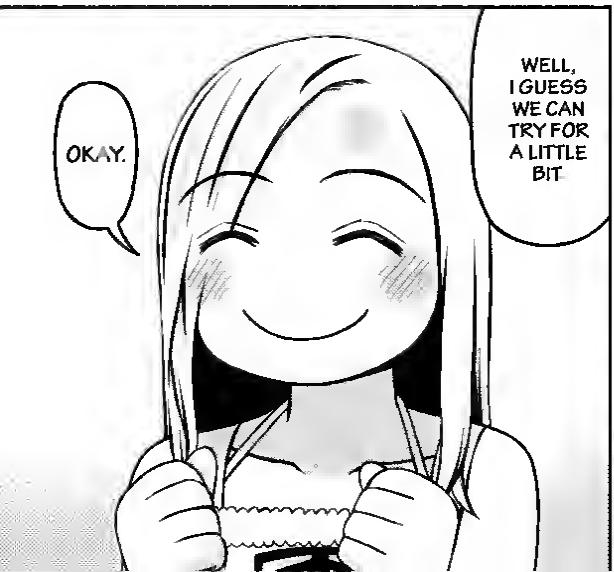

CATCH?

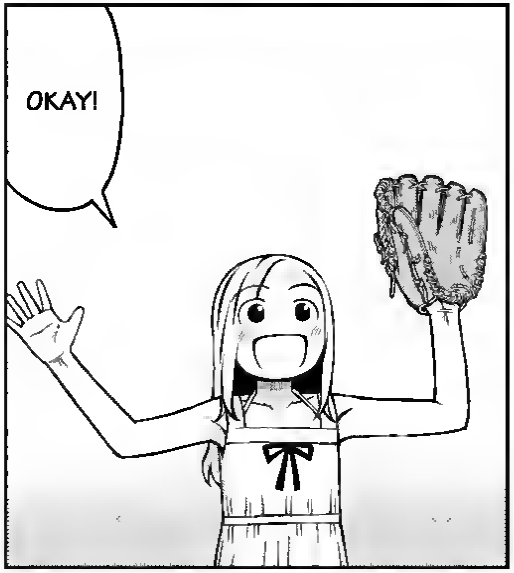

SO YOU WERE HERE AFTER ALL.

WHAT?!
NINA WANTS TO TRY, TOO.

SUURE...
SHUTARO, I THINK IT'LL BE FINE IF YOU THROW THE BALL LIGHTLY

I THINK THIS MIGHT BE A BIT HARD FOR YOU, NINA.
YOU DON'T KNOW HOW TO PLAY BASEBALL, DO YOU?
AWWWW...


OKAY.
WELL, I GUESS WE CAN TRY FOR A LITTLE BIT


OKAY!

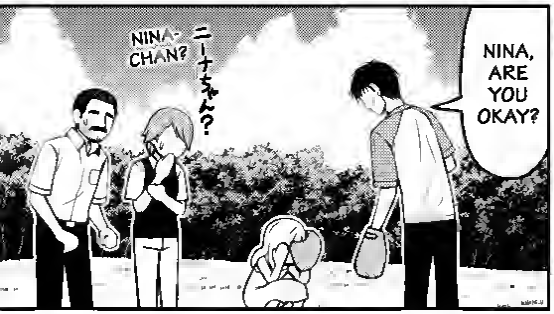
ALL RIGHT, HERE WE GO!

THE BALL'S COMING
ボールきたっ

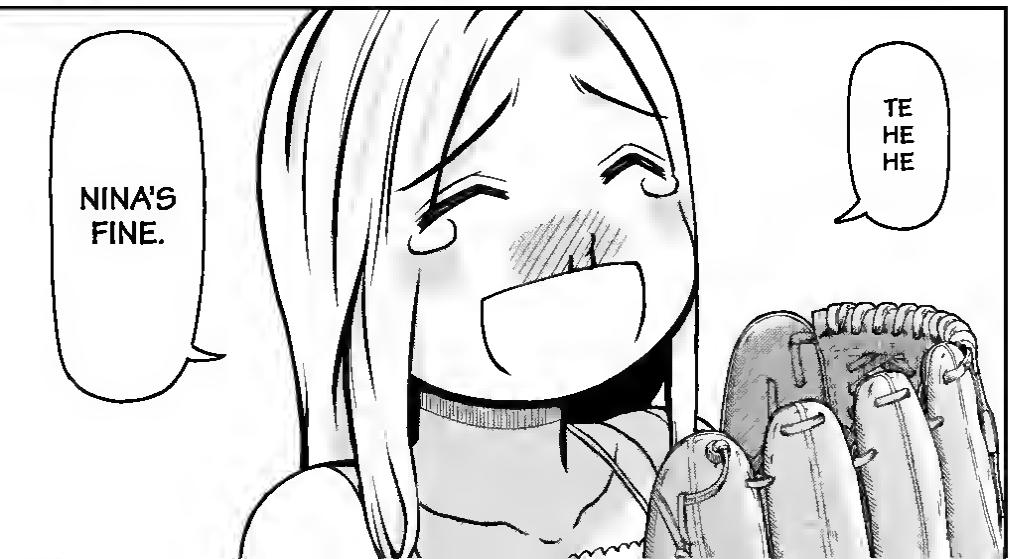
HERE.

OH.

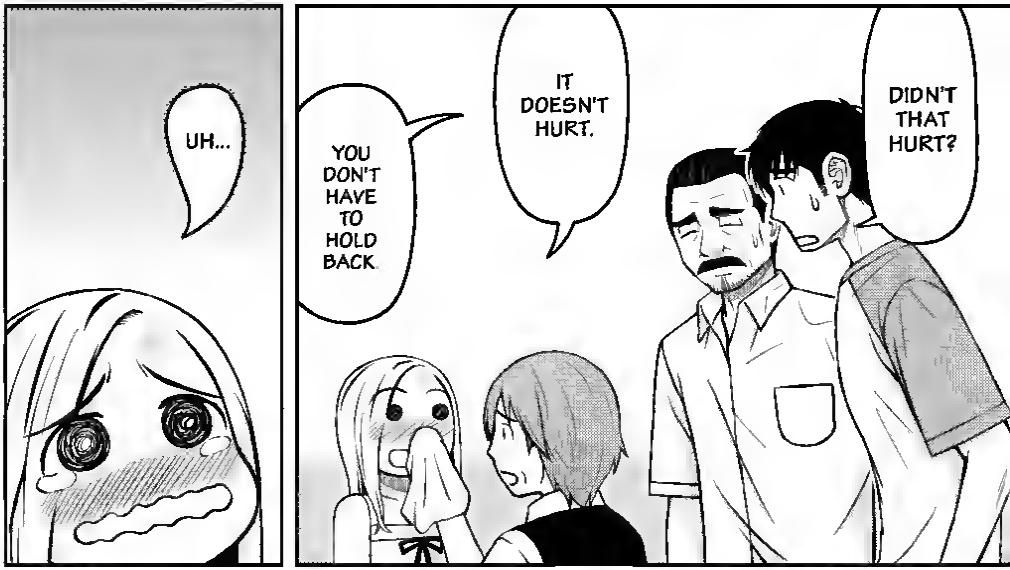
OWW...
うう


NINA-CHAN?
ニーナちゃん?
NINA, ARE YOU OKAY?

SMACK


NINA'S FINE.
TE HE HE

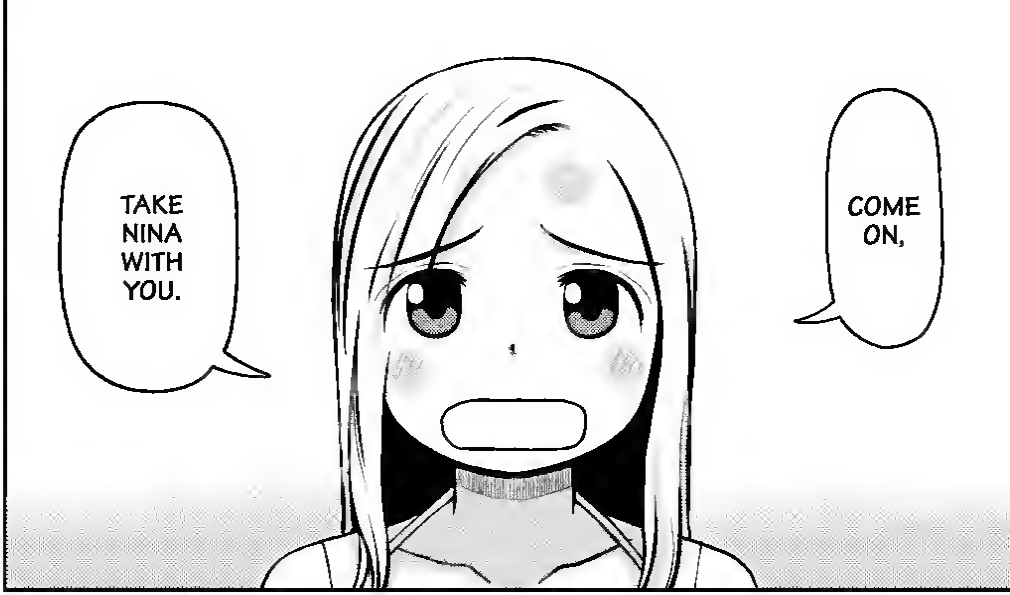
YOUR NOSE IS BLEEDING
鼻血が！
OH MY...
YOU...
...

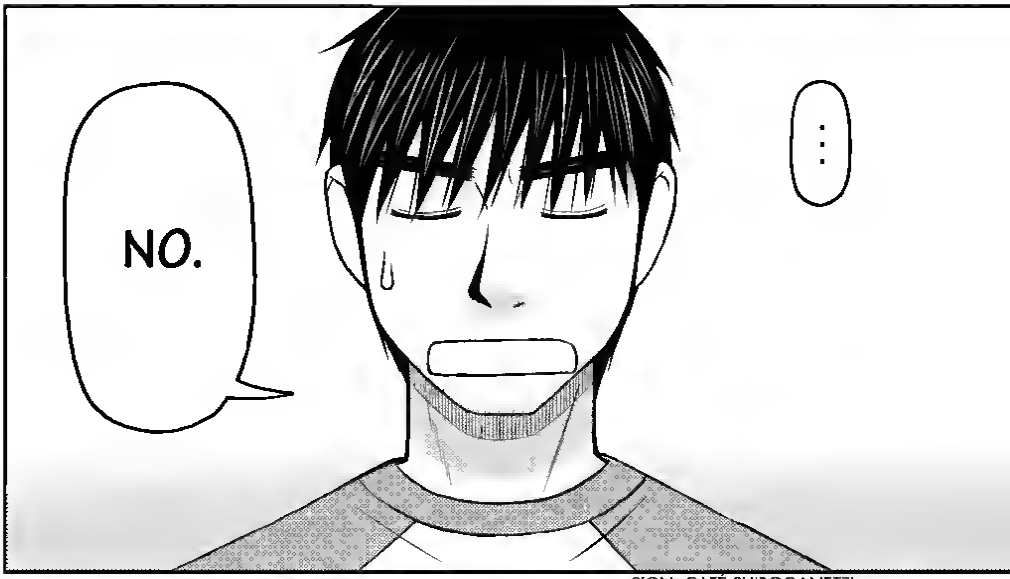

UH...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO HOLD BACK.
IT DOESN'T HURT.
DIDN'T THAT HURT?

WAAAAAAAH!
うわあああん
THAT REALLY HURT, SHUTARO!
HEY! YOU NEED TO THROW SOFTER THAN THAT, SHUTARO!
THIS IS WHY I SAID WE SHOULDN'T DO THIS...

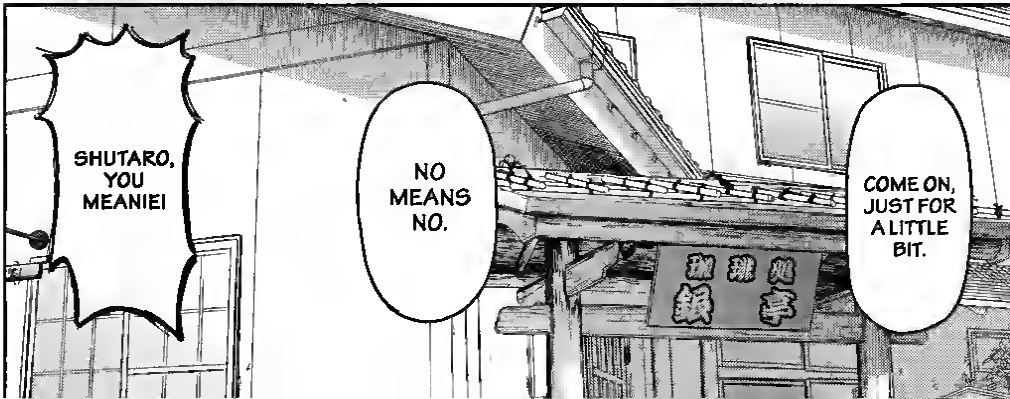
CHAPTER 22

DAWN





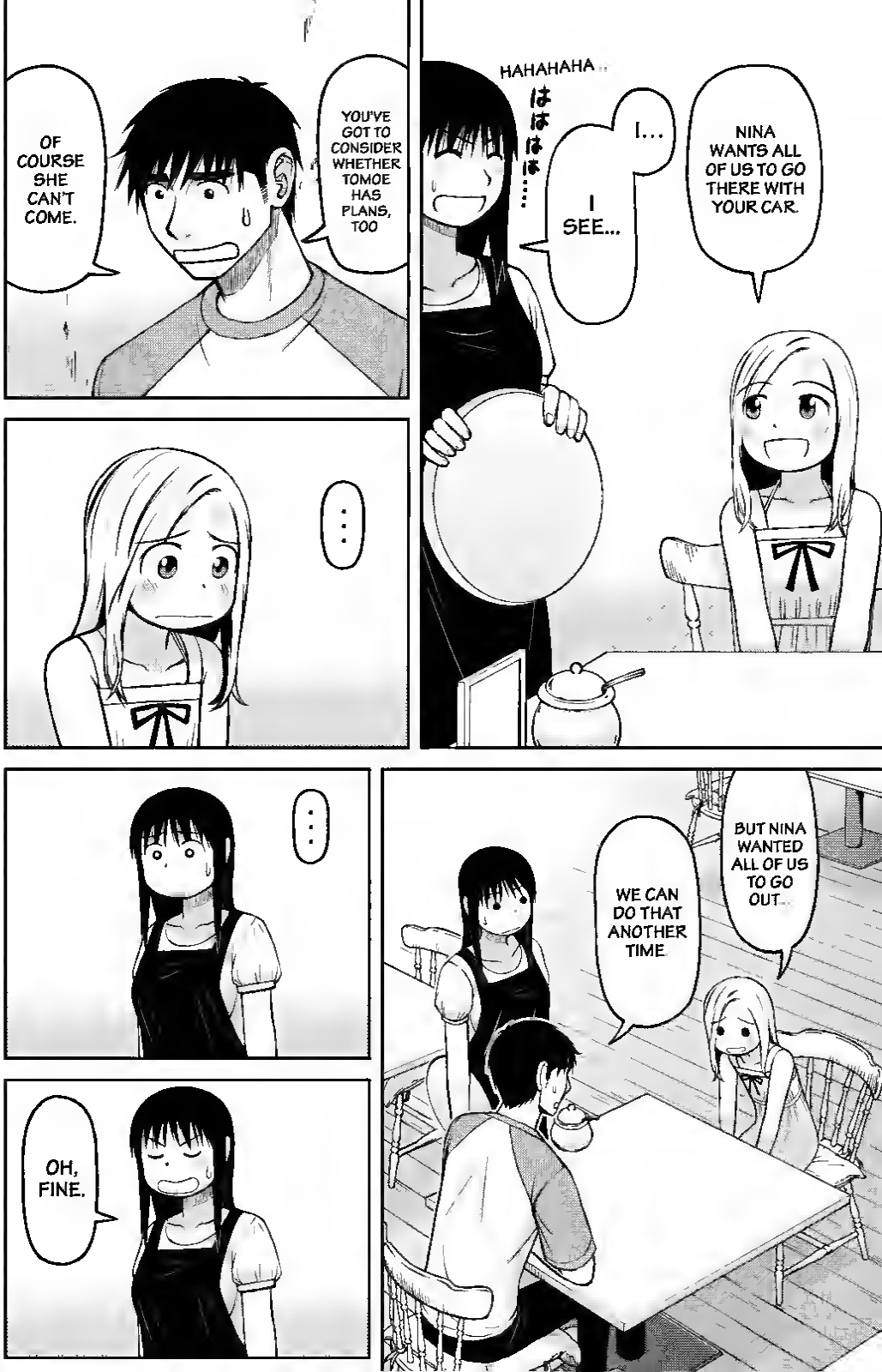
SIGN: CAFÉ SHIROGANETEI



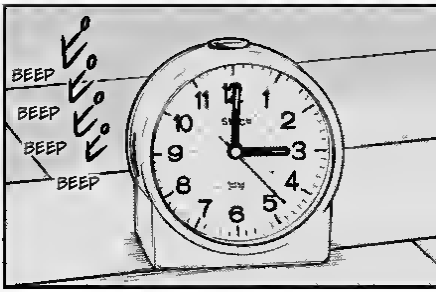
HEY!
WHAT ARE YOU TWO GOING ON ABOUT?
大声出して…
YELLING LIKE THAT
WELL, WE'RE NOT ACTUALLY ARGUING..
SHUTARO..
TOMOE, HEAR NINA OUT!
シューターローがねっ
…
HUH?
PRACTICING WAKING UP EARLY?
UM..
I DON'T REALLY THINK I GET IT
WHAT?
HA HA..
はは…

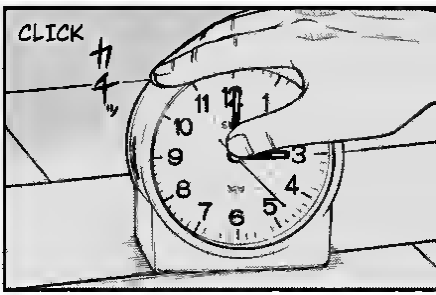
IT'S ABOUT THE FARMING JOB THAT I'M STARTING IN SEPTEMBER.
MY SHIFT STARTS AT 4 A.M.
SO TO PREPARE FOR THAT, I'M THINKING ABOUT...
WAKING UP AT 3 TOMORROW, AND GOING DOWN TO THE FIELD
AND THEN NINA SAID SHE WANTED TO GO, TOO.
BECAUSE IT SOUNDS FUN!
I SEE... なるほどね...
WE'RE NOT GOING TO GO PLAY OR ANYTHING, SO NO.
ANYWAY,
AWWW
NINA WILL BEHAVE.
SO, PLEASE, SHUTARO?
I SAID NO.
DROP IT ALREADY

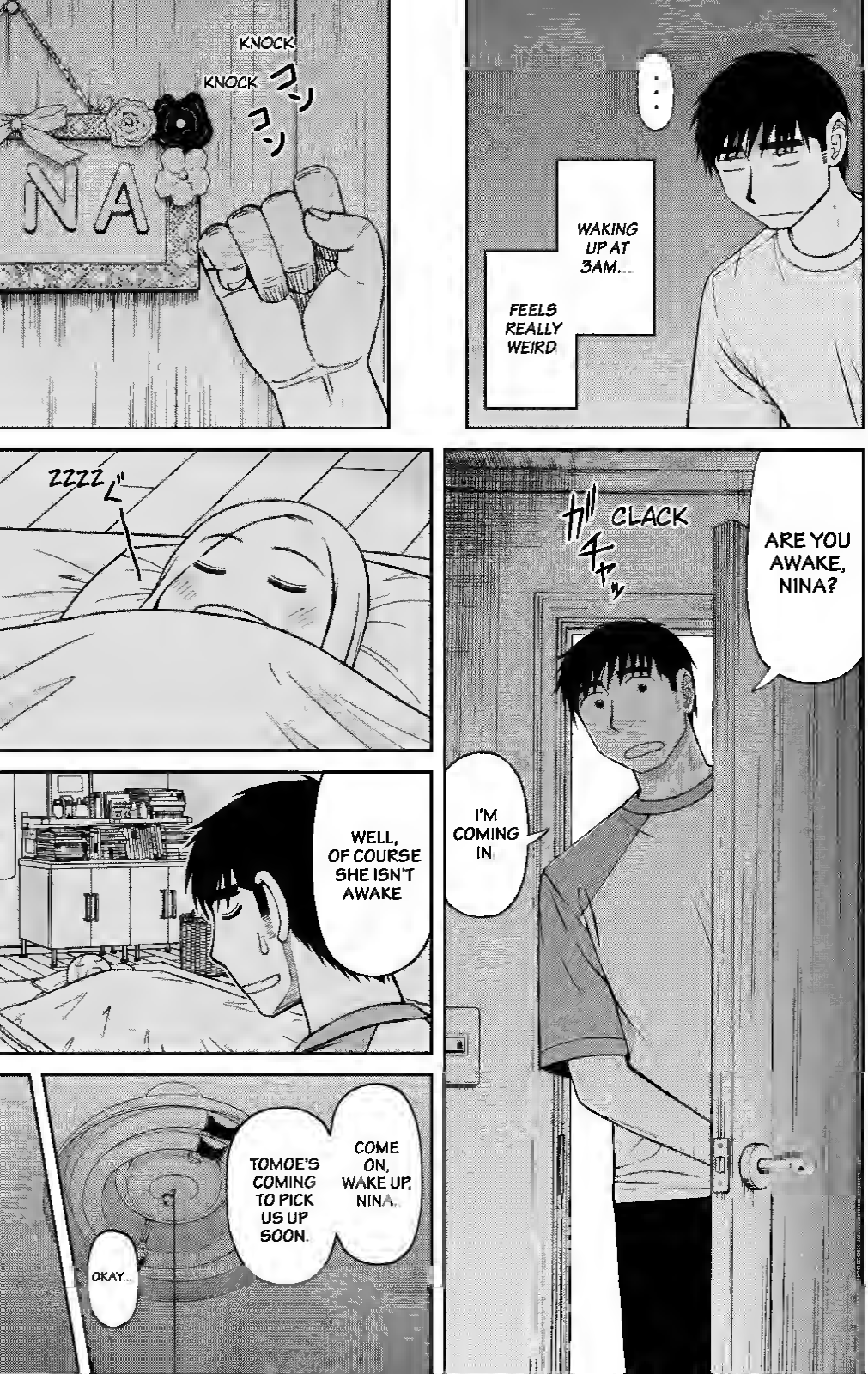
WHY DON'T YOU JUST TAKE HER?
WHAT?!
IT'S JUST PRACTICE, RIGHT?
WHY DON'T YOU BOTH GO SEE THE EARLY MORNING CABBAGE FIELDS?
...
ABOUT THAT
NINA IS SAYING THAT SHE WANTS ALL THREE OF US TO GO.
WHAT?
I WOULD GO, TOO?
YEP.


NINA WANTS ALL OF US TO GO THERE WITH YOUR CAR.
I...
I SEE...
HAHAHAHA...
はははは……
YOU'VE GOT TO CONSIDER WHETHER TOMOE HAS PLANS, TOO
OF COURSE SHE CAN'T COME.
...
BUT NINA WANTED ALL OF US TO GO OUT...
WE CAN DO THAT ANOTHER TIME.
...
OH, FINE.

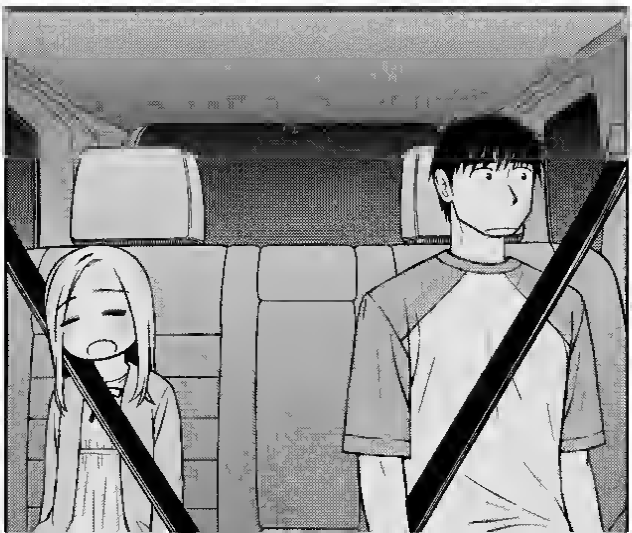
REALLY, TOMOE?
YEAH. LET'S ALL GO TOGETHER.
I'LL GIVE YOU BOTH A RIDE TOMORROW.
HUH?
I'LL FIGURE IT OUT.
トモエ ありがとーっ
THANK YOU, TOMOE!
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT YOUR OWN FIELD WORK?
HEY, ARE YOU SERIOUS?
YAY!
I'M NOT TAKING THE BLAME FOR THIS...


BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP

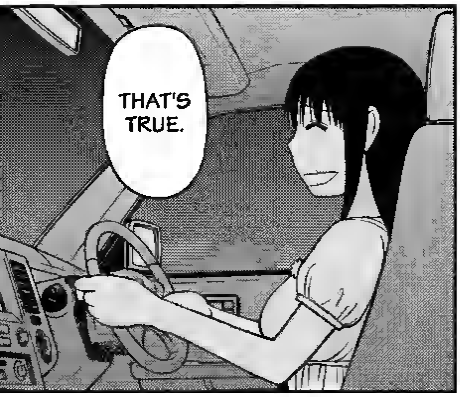

CLICK

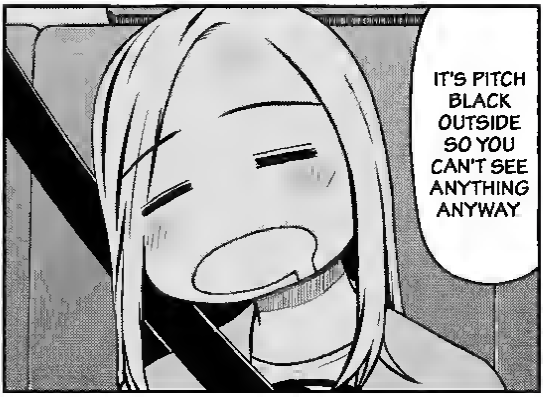

KNOCK
KNOCK
コン
コン
NA
...
WAKING UP AT 3AM...
FEELS REALLY WEIRD
ZZZZ
CLACK
ガチャ
ARE YOU AWAKE, NINA?
I'M COMING IN
WELL, OF COURSE SHE ISN'T AWAKE
COME ON, WAKE UP, NINA.
TOMOE'S COMING TO PICK US UP SOON.
OKAY...

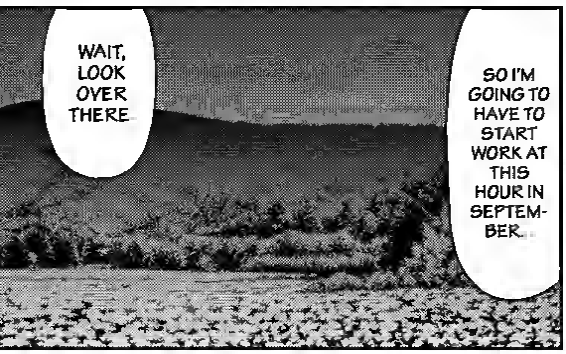
ブウウウ…
VRRRR

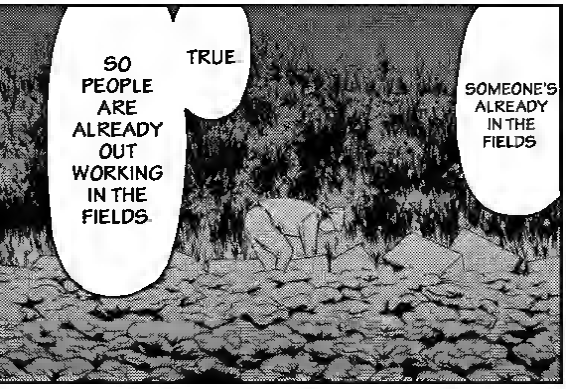


IS NINA-CHAN ASLEEP?
YEAH.
I GUESS IT WOULDN'T HURT TO LET HER SLEEP ON THE WAY.

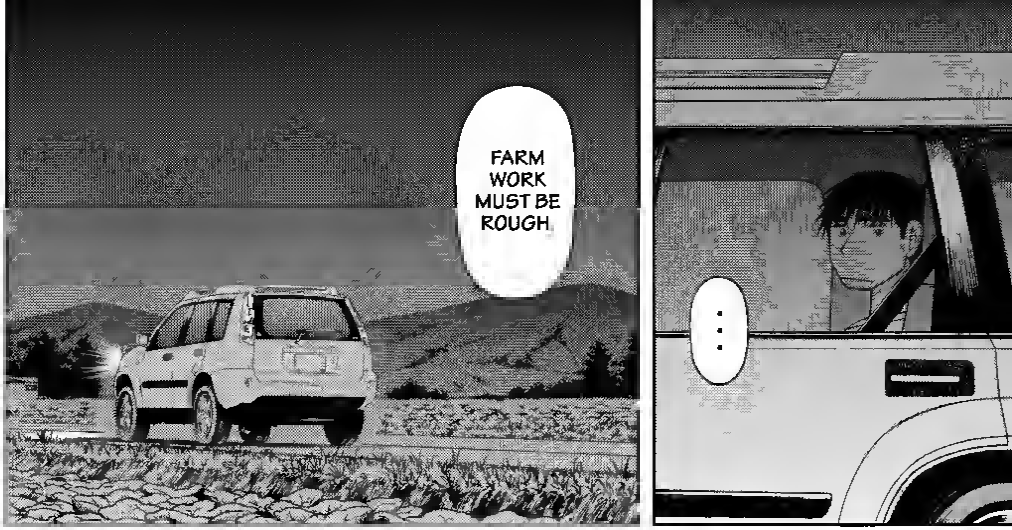

THAT'S TRUE.

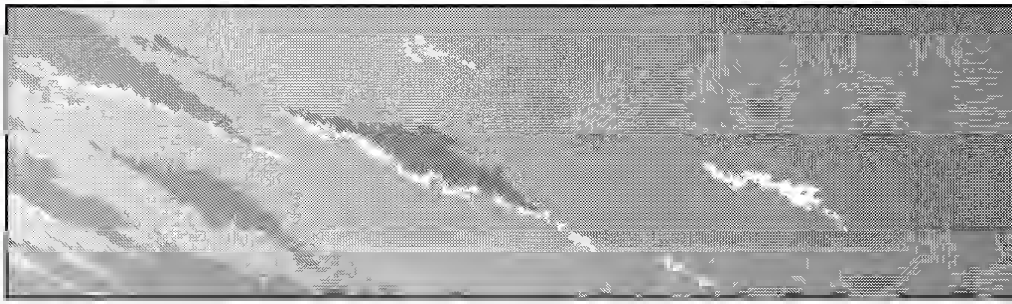

IT'S PITCH BLACK OUTSIDE SO YOU CAN'T SEE ANYTHING ANYWAY.

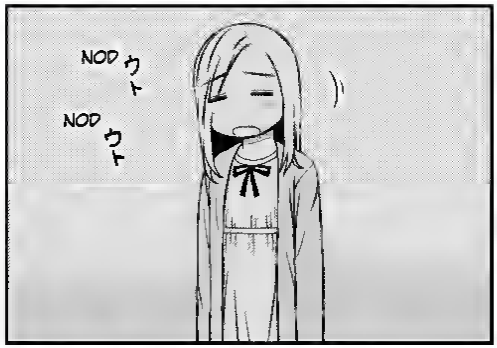

WAIT, LOOK OVER THERE.
SO I'M GOING TO HAVE TO START WORK AT THIS HOUR IN SEPTEM-BER...


TRUE.
SO PEOPLE ARE ALREADY OUT WORKING IN THE FIELDS.
SOMEONE'S ALREADY IN THE FIELDS

BUT IT MIGHT AS WELL BE NIGHT.
BUT SERIOUSLY, IT MAY BE 4 A.M.,


FARM WORK MUST BE ROUGH.
...



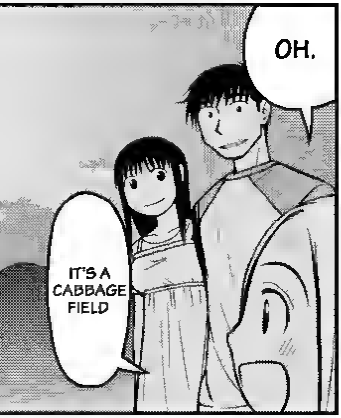

NOD ウト
NOD ウト

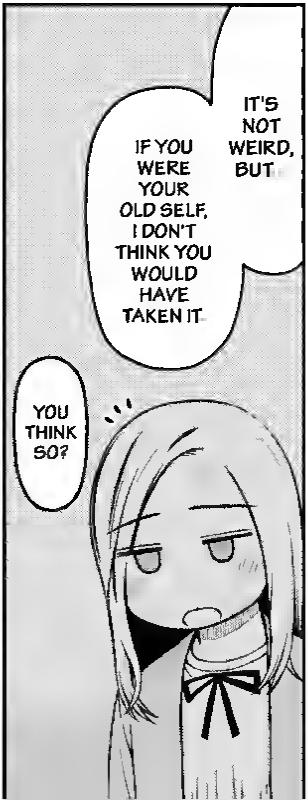
IT'S GETTING BRIGHTER.
YEAH.

NINA'S FINE...
ARE YOU COLD, NINA?

THE MORNING FOG IS PRETTY INTENSE

STARTING IN SEPTEMBER, I'LL BE WORKING HERE, TOO

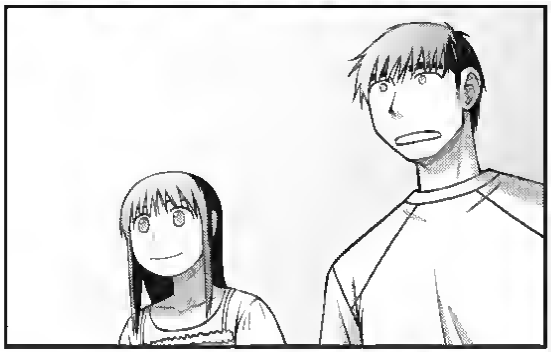

OH.
IT'S A CABBAGE FIELD

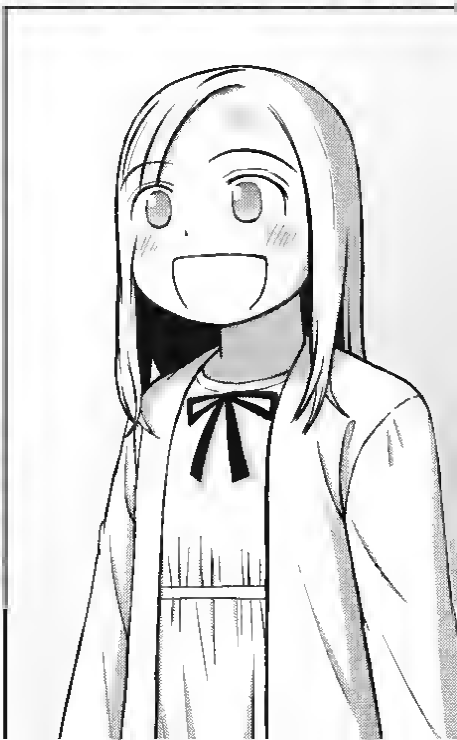

IT'S NOT WEIRD, BUT
IF YOU WERE YOUR OLD SELF, I DON'T THINK YOU WOULD HAVE TAKEN IT
YOU THINK SO?

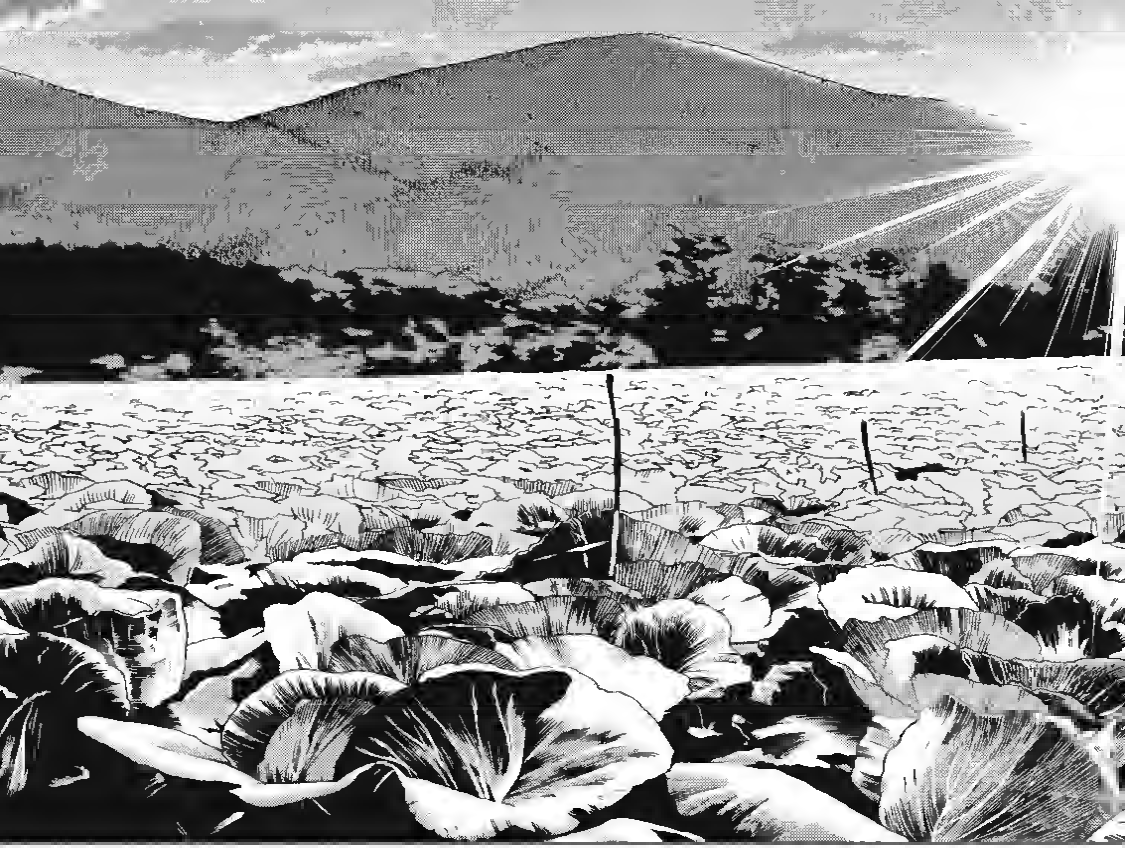
I NEVER THOUGHT YOU'D HAVE A GIG HARVESTING CABBAGES, SHU

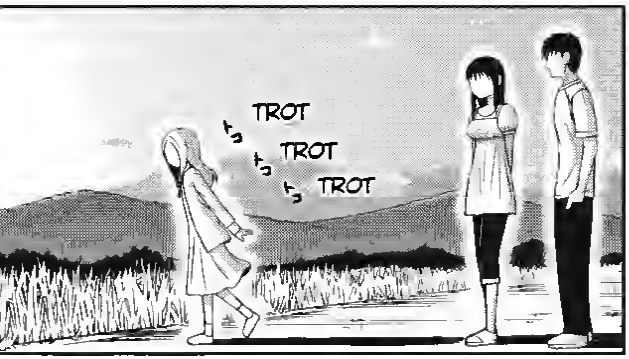
LOOK, NINA. DAWN IS ABOUT TO BREAK.
YEAH.

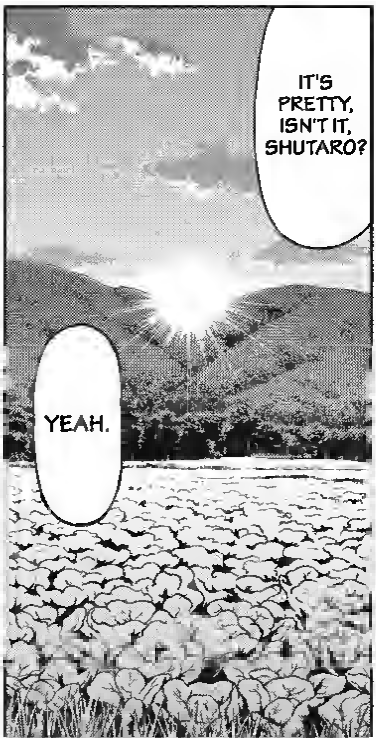
IS IT WEIRD?







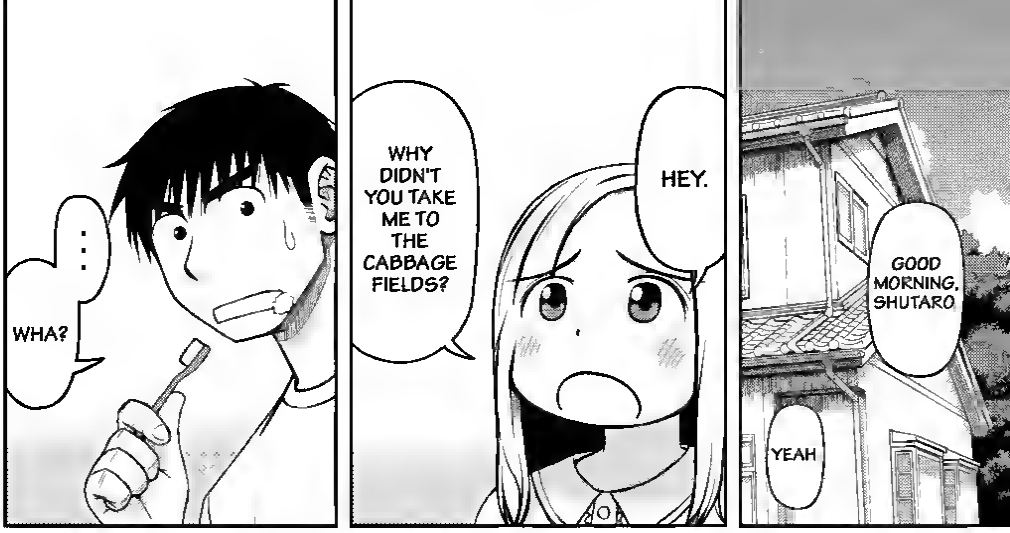

TROT
TROT
TROT

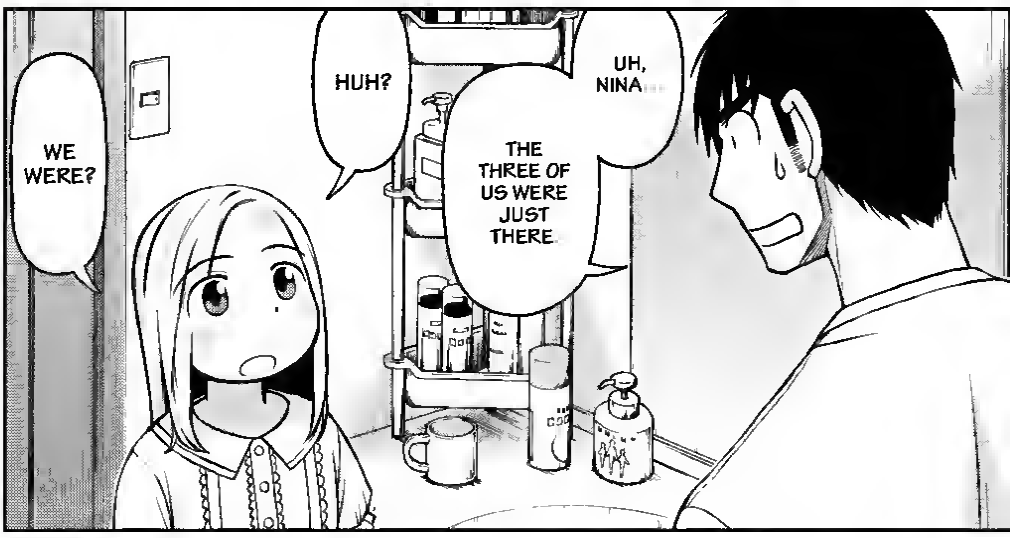

IT'S PRETTY, ISN'T IT, SHUTARO?
YEAH.

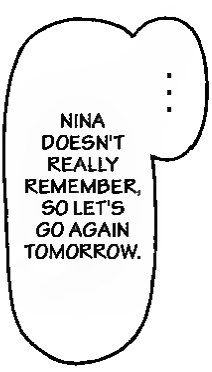
SPIN
SHUTARO

DO YOUR BEST...
AT WORK.

YEAH.
LEAVE IT TO ME.
IT'S GETTING A BIT COLD, SO LET'S HEAD BACK, NINA-CHAN.
YEAH.
NINA'S GETTING SLEEPY.
ALL RIGHT, WE CAN GO BACK TO SLEEP WHEN WE GET HOME.
HA HA...
はは…


GOOD MORNING, SHUTARO
YEAH
HEY.
WHY DIDN'T YOU TAKE ME TO THE CABBAGE FIELDS?
WHA?
...

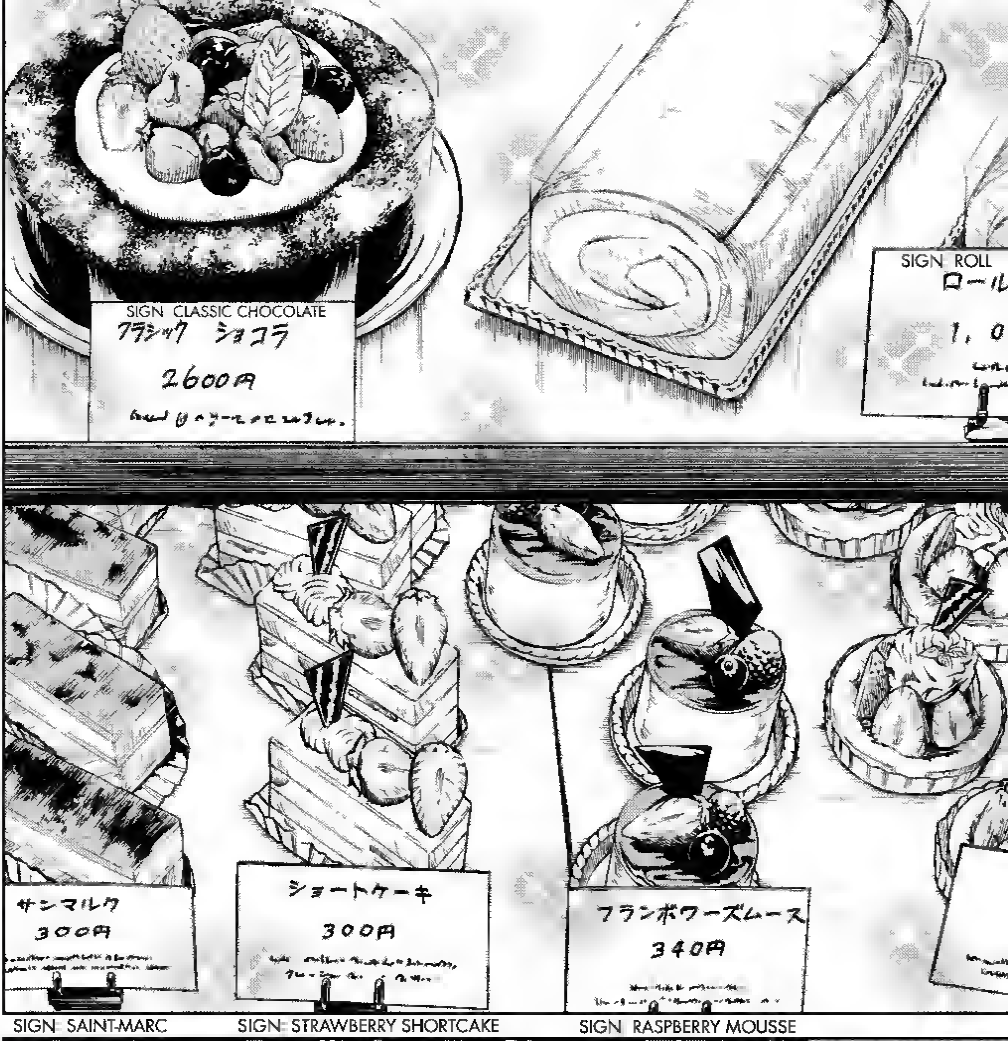

UH, NINA...
THE THREE OF US WERE JUST THERE.
HUH?
WE WERE?


...
NINA DOESN'T REALLY REMEMBER, SO LET'S GO AGAIN TOMORROW.

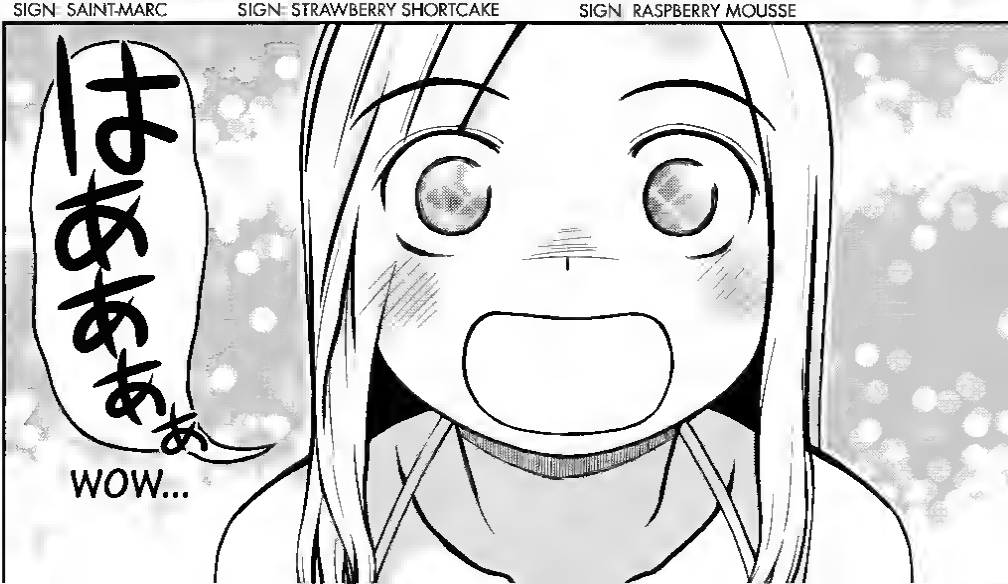
WE'RE NOT GOING AGAIN.

CHAPTER 23

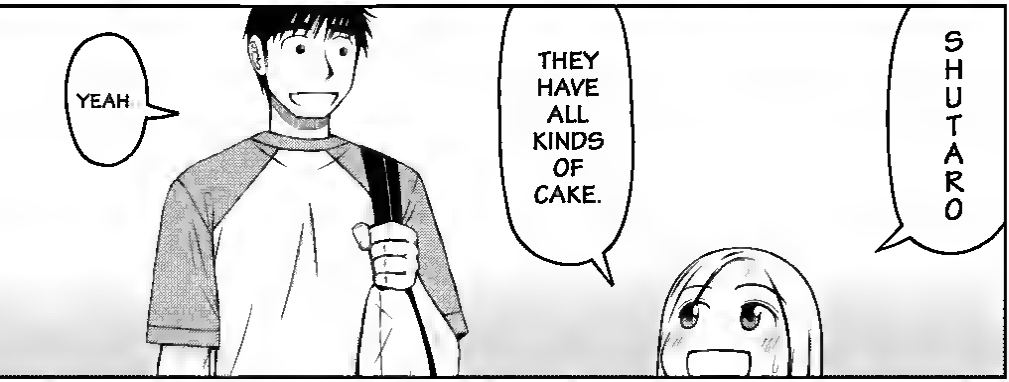
A REWARD FOR YOUR HARD WORK

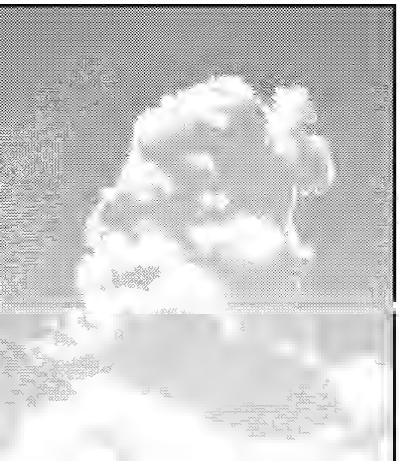


SIGN SAINT-MARC SIGN STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE SIGN RASPBERRY MOUSSE



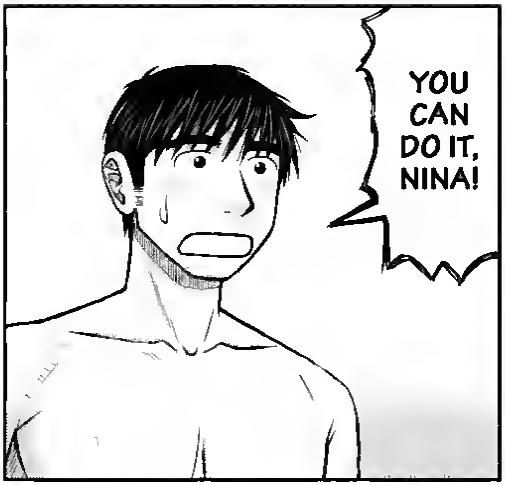
SO COOL!
WHOA!
AWESOME!

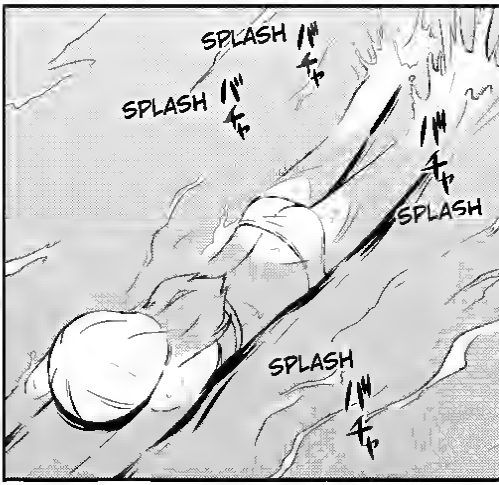

SHUTARO
THEY HAVE ALL KINDS OF CAKE.
YEAH



NINA DOESN'T KNOW WHICH ONE TO GET.
THERE ARE SO MANY!

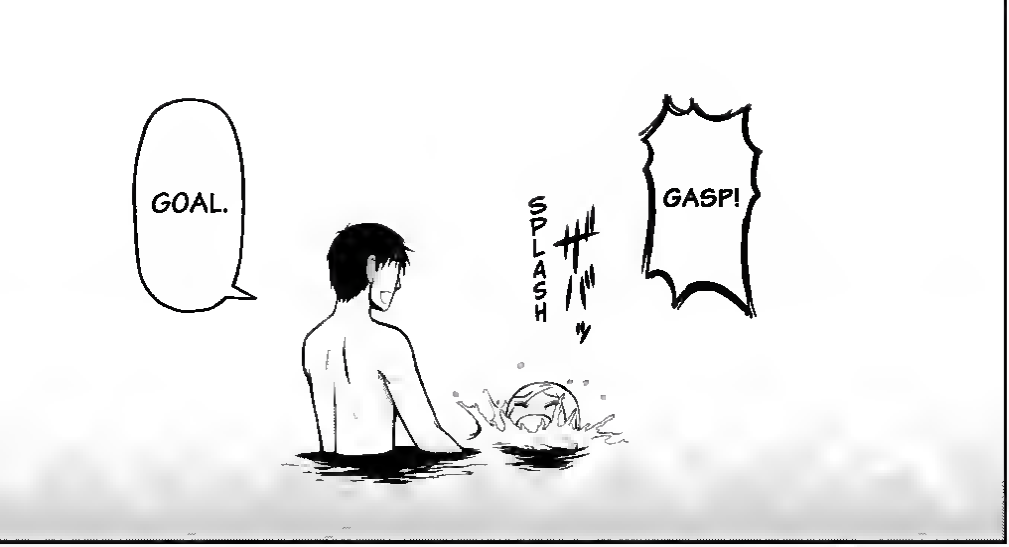
SPLASH
バチャ
SPLASH
バチャ
SPLASH
バチャ
SPLASH
バチャ

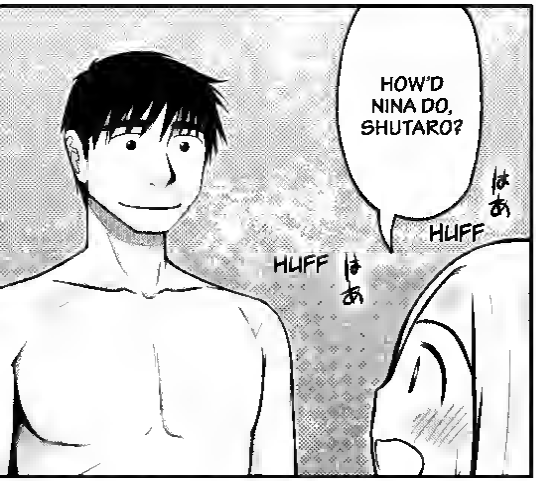

YOU CAN DO IT, NINA!

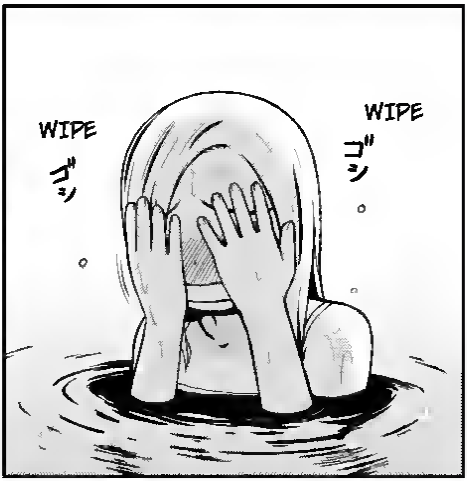

SPLASH
バチャ
SPLASH
バチャ
バチャ
SPLASH
SPLASH
バチャ

ALL RIGHT!
バチャ
SPLASH
バチャ
SPLASH
SPLASH
バチャ

YOU CAN DO IT!
SPLASH
バチャ
JUST A LITTLE MORE!
SPLASH
バチャ
SPLASH
バチャ

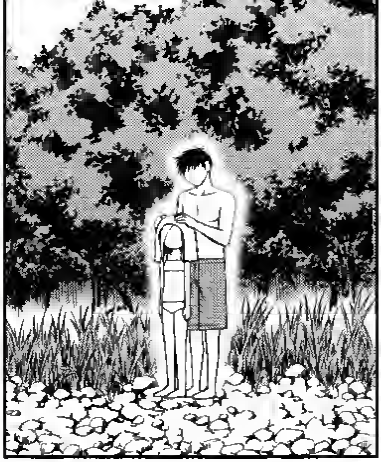

GOAL.
SPLASH
GASP!

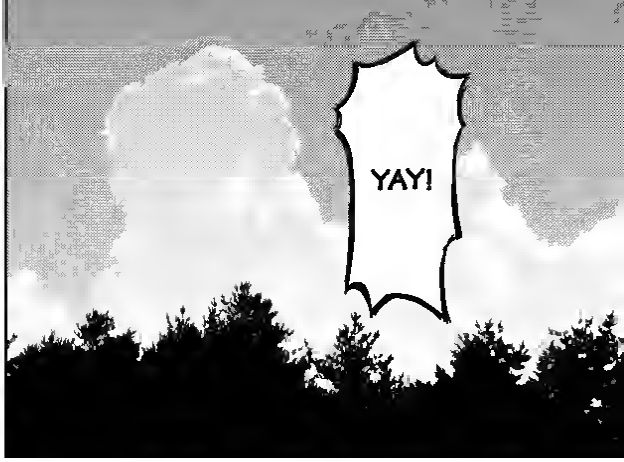

HOW'D NINA DO, SHUTARO?
はあ
HUFF
HUFF
はあ

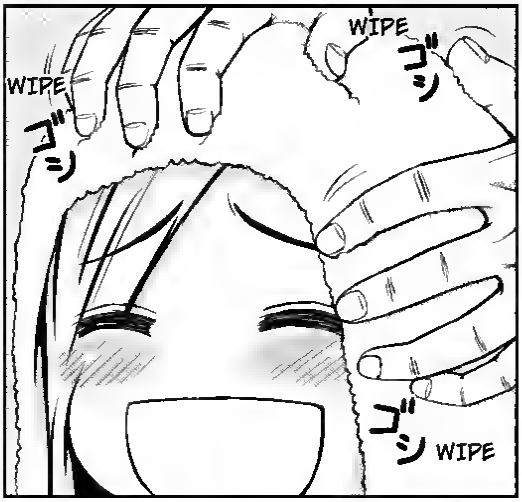

WIPE
ゴシ
WIPE
ゴシ

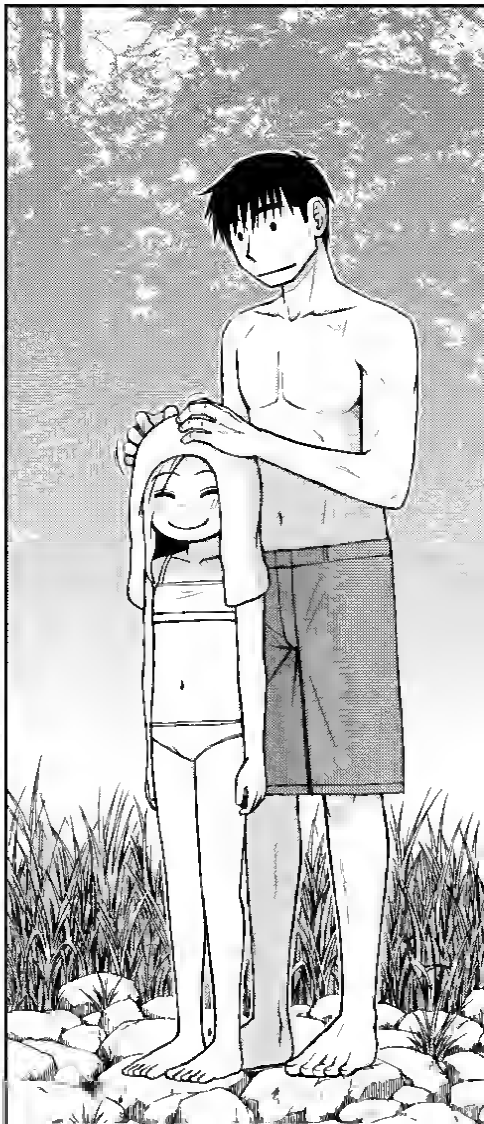
YOU WERE ACTUALLY SWIMMING.
PANT
はあ
PANT
はあ
PANT
はあ

GOOD JOB, NINA.



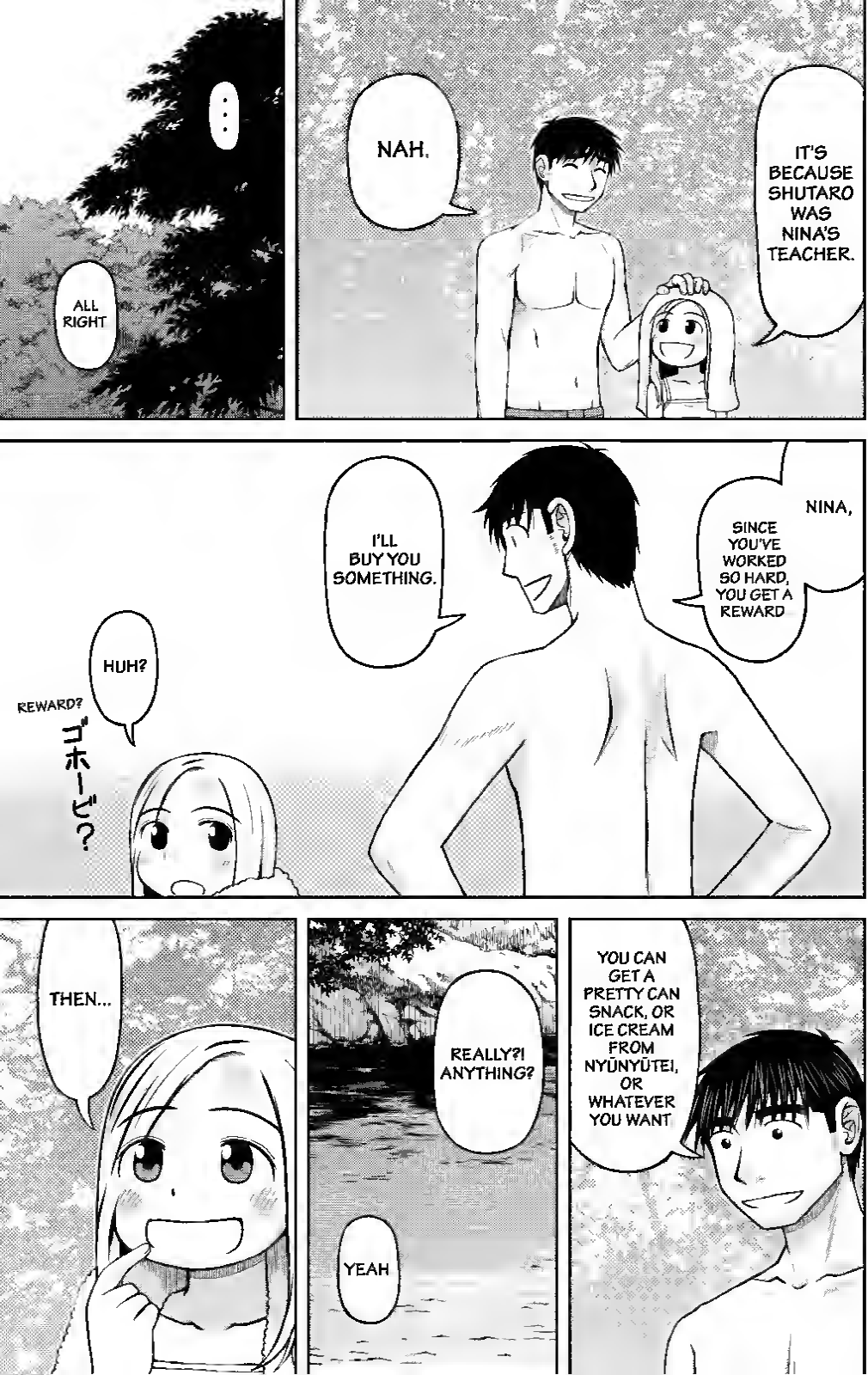

YAY!

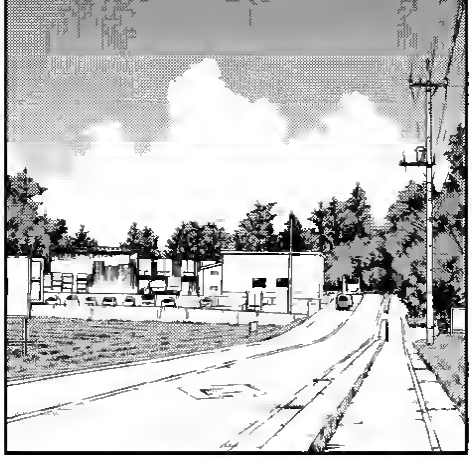

WIPE
ゴシ
WIPE
ゴシ
ゴシ
WIPE

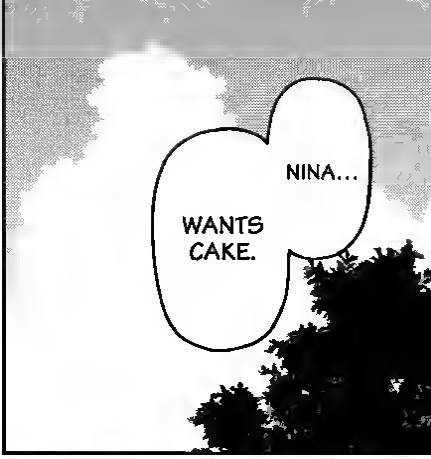


YOU MAY HAVE A GIFT WHEN IT COMES TO SWIMMING, NINA
TE HE HE.
ゴシ
WIPE
WIPE
ゴシ
ゴシ
WIPE

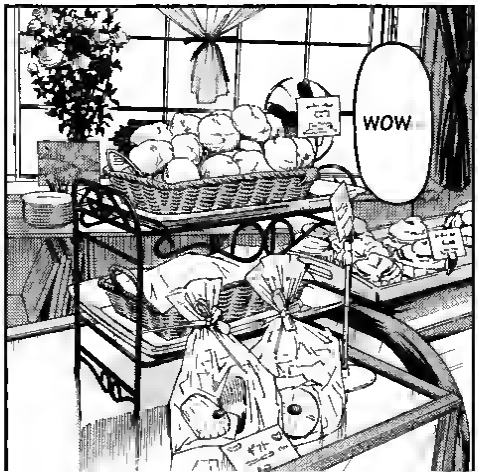
TO THINK YOU'D GET BETTER SO FAST..

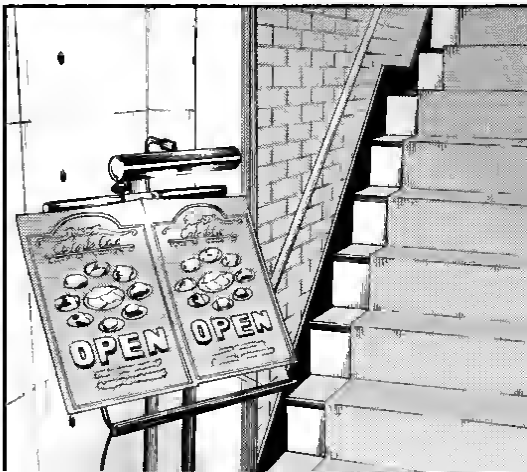

...
ALL RIGHT
NAH.
IT'S BECAUSE SHUTARO WAS NINA'S TEACHER.
NINA, SINCE YOU'VE WORKED SO HARD, YOU GET A REWARD
I'LL BUY YOU SOMETHING.
HUH?
REWARD?
ゴホービ?
THEN...
REALLY?! ANYTHING?
YEAH
YOU CAN GET A PRETTY CAN SNACK, OR ICE CREAM FROM NYŪNYŪTEI, OR WHATEVER YOU WANT

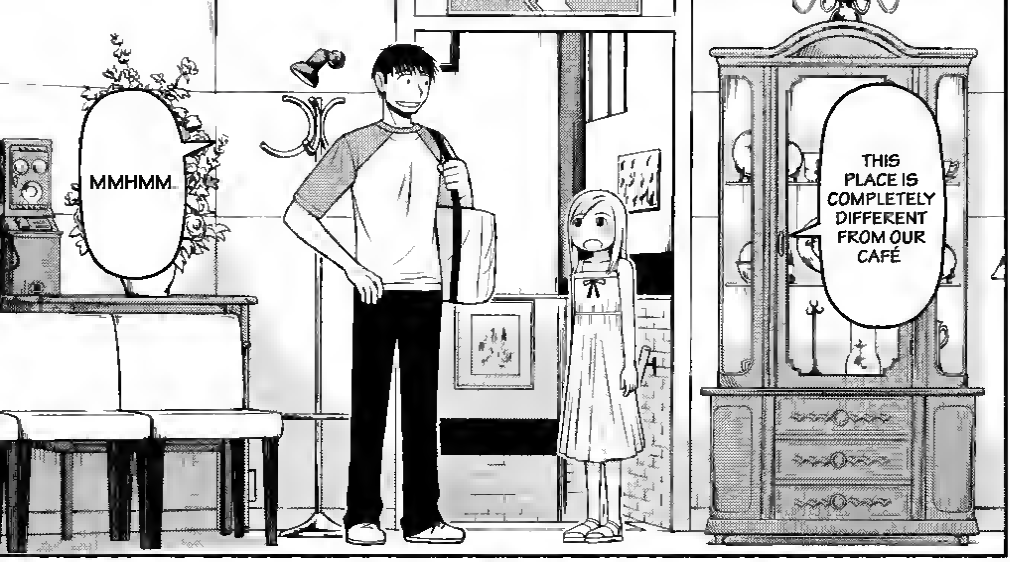


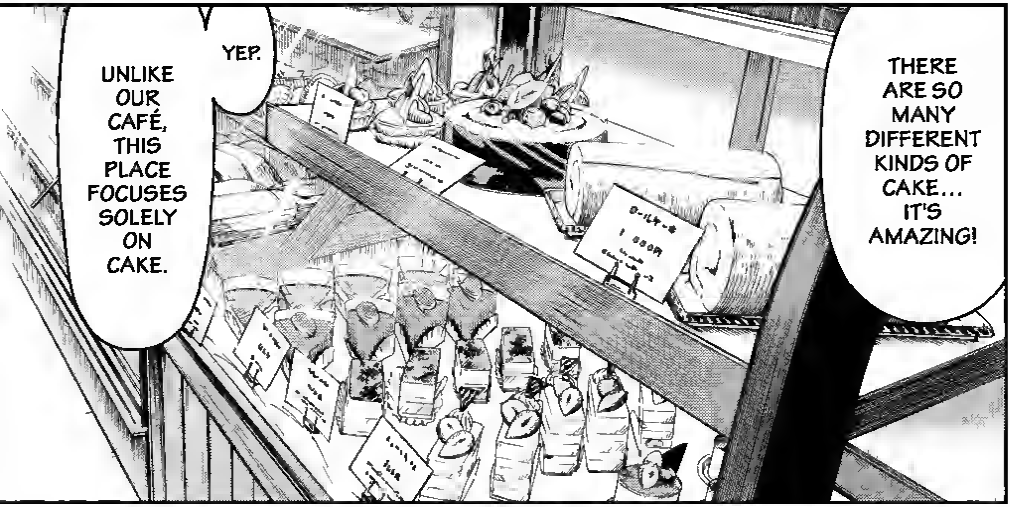

NINA...
WANTS CAKE.

Café de Coco


WOW

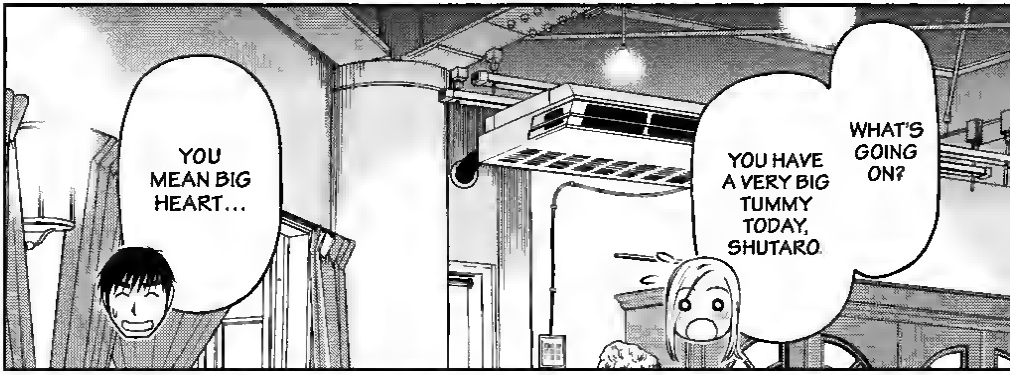

OPEN
OPEN



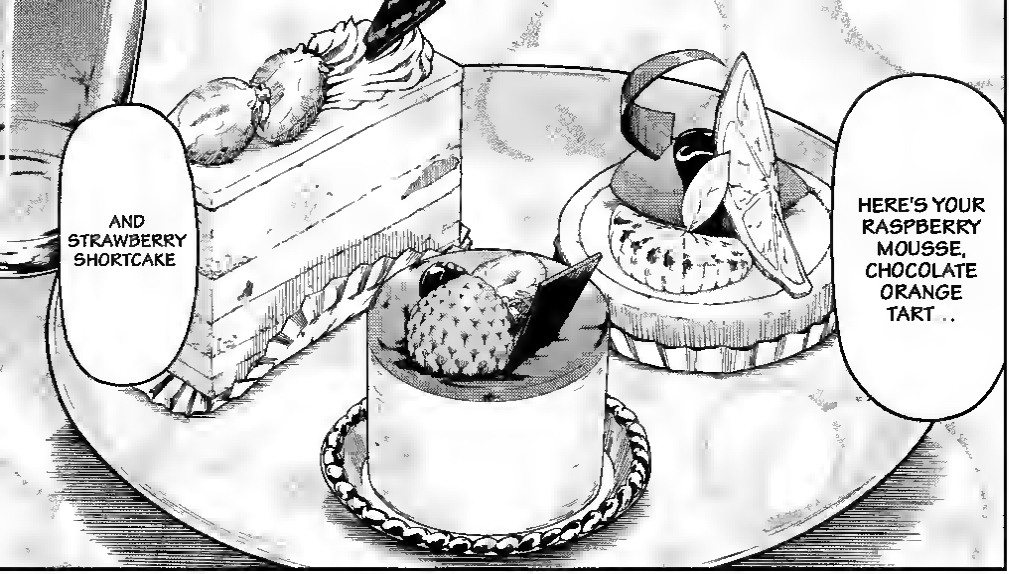


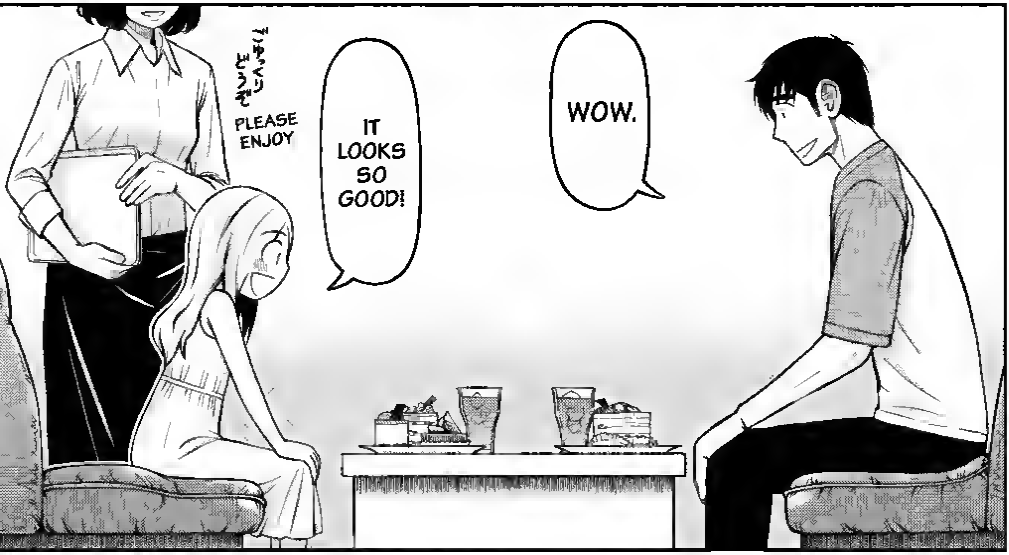
SIGN: STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE

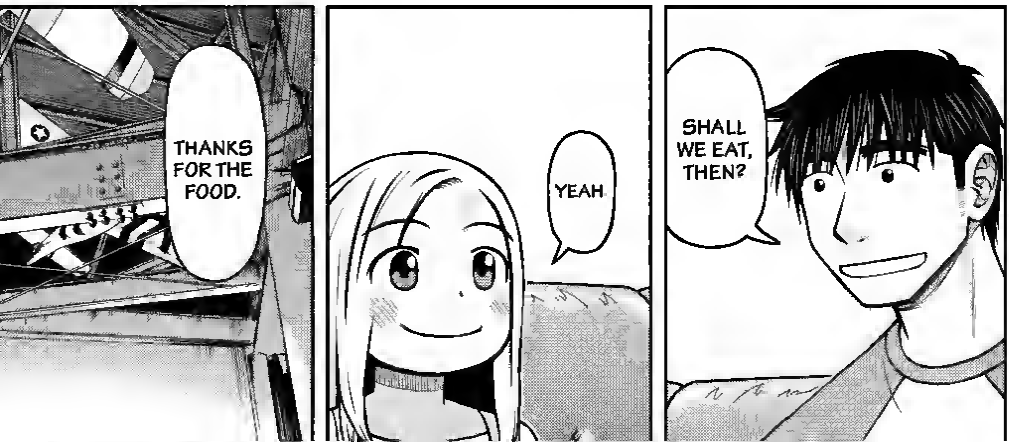
NINA,
TODAY'S YOUR LUCKY DAY. YOU CAN EAT AS MANY AS YOU WANT.
WHAT?!

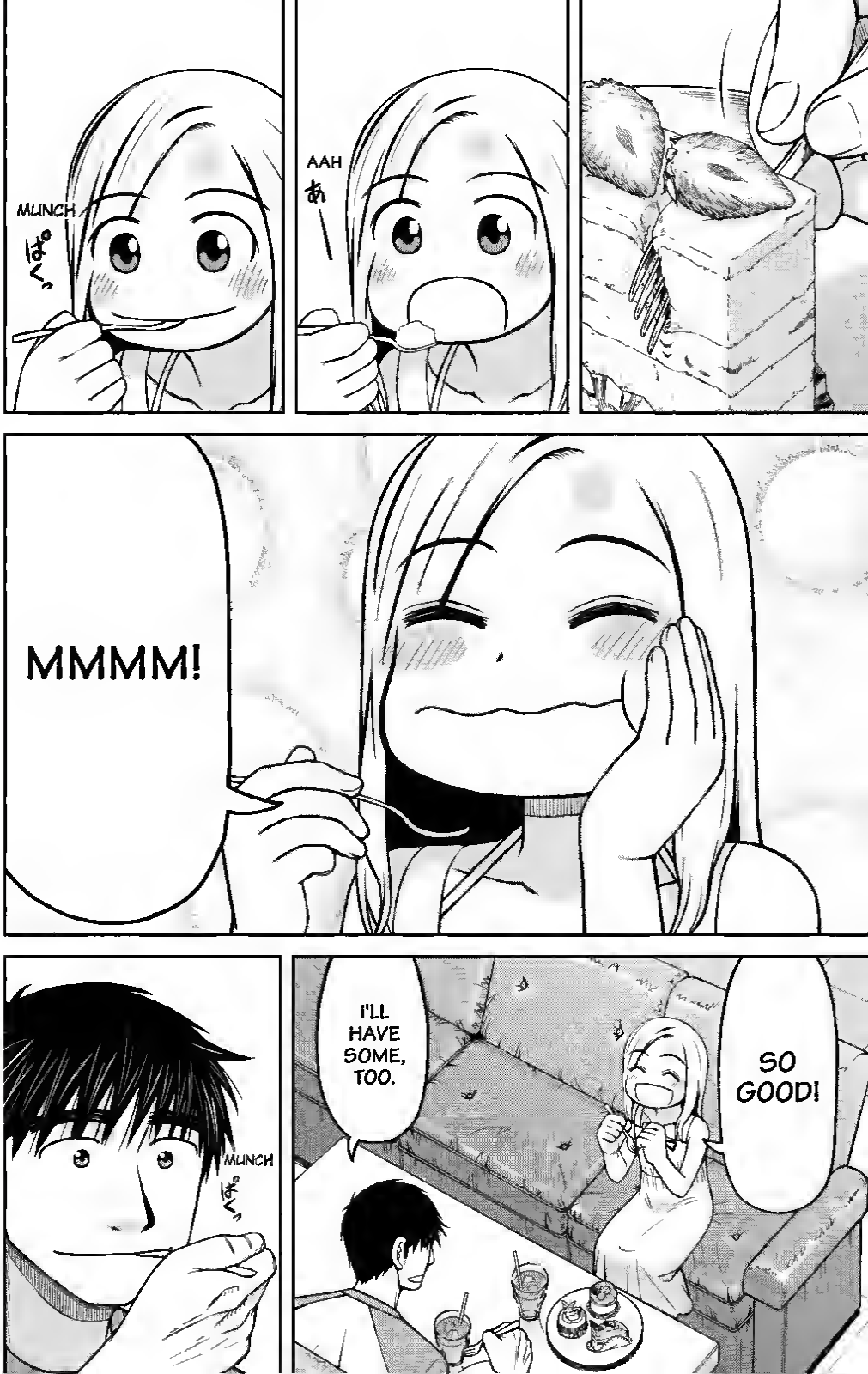

WHAT'S GOING ON?
YOU HAVE A VERY BIG TUMMY TODAY, SHUTARO.
YOU MEAN BIG HEART...

THEN... THREE!
CAN NINA HAVE THREE?
SURE.
YAY!


HERE'S YOUR RASPBERRY MOUSSE, CHOCOLATE ORANGE TART...
AND STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE

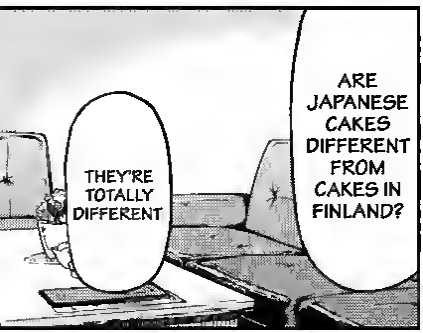

WOW.
IT LOOKS SO GOOD!
PLEASE ENJOY

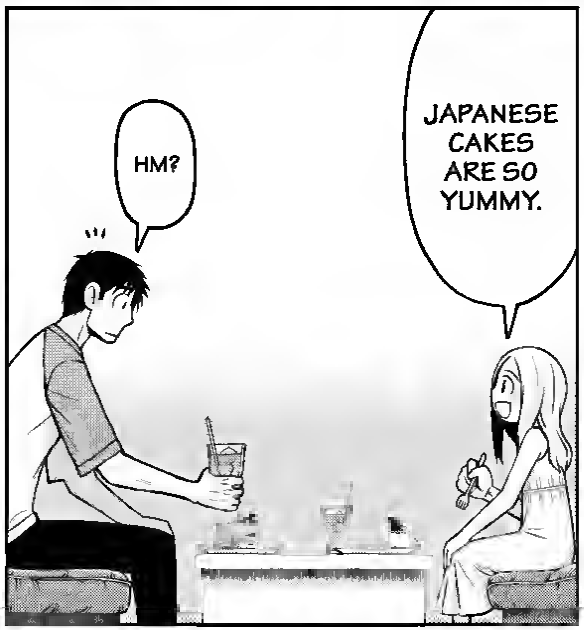

SHALL WE EAT, THEN?
YEAH.
THANKS FOR THE FOOD.

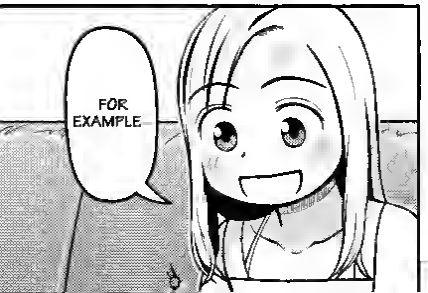

MUNCH
もぐっ
AAH
あー
MMMM!
MUNCH
もぐっ
I'LL HAVE SOME, TOO.
SO GOOD!

OH...
THIS IS GOOD!
I KNOW, RIGHT?

SIGH...
NINA'S SO HAPPY!
YOU'RE SO HAPPY THAT YOU'RE CRYING?


ARE JAPANESE CAKES DIFFERENT FROM CAKES IN FINLAND?
THEY'RE TOTALLY DIFFERENT


JAPANESE CAKES ARE SO YUMMY.
HM?


FOR EXAMPLE

THEY'RE PRETTY...
THEY LOOK CUTE NO MATTER WHAT...
MUNCH
ぱくっ
AND THEY TASTE...
EVEN THEN, THREE MIGHT BE A BIT TOO MANY.
TE HE HE
HUH.
IT'S EASY TO EAT A LOT OF IT.
THE CAKE ITSELF IS MOIST AND FLUFFY AND THE CREAM IS LIGHT AND NOT TOO SWEET.
SO DEWICIOUS!

HUH.
THEIR CHOCOLATE CAKE IS INSANE!
BUT...
CAKES IN FINLAND ARE MUCH HEAVIER
おいしいけど
BUT YUMMY

REALLY?
NINA THINKS JAPANESE CAKES ARE THE BEST IN THE WORLD!

RIGHT?
COME TO THINK OF IT, I GUESS CAKES IN OTHER COUNTRIES DO SEEM HEAVIER

THANK YOU VERY MUCH
Café de Coco

AWWW
NO.
IF YOU EAT MORE, YOU'LL BE TOO FULL TO EAT DINNER
SO...
CAN WE GET ONE MORE?

WE BOUGHT A LOT OF CAKES TO TAKE HOME, HUH?
YEAH, FOR MOM AND DAD.

Cafe Patissene Boulangene
Cafe de Coco

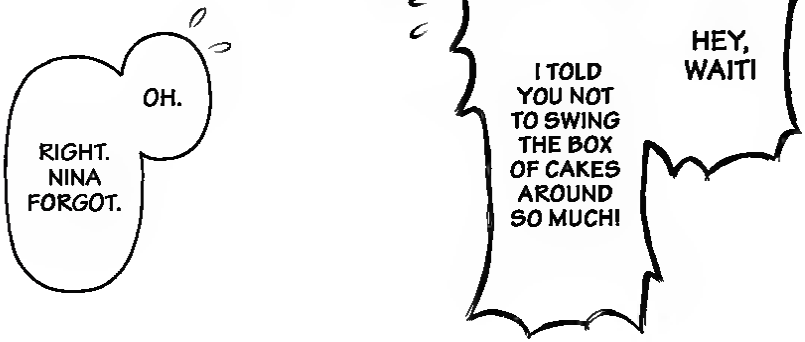
DON'T SWING THE BOX SO MUCH.
YOU'LL MESS UP THE CAKES.
OH, RIGHT.

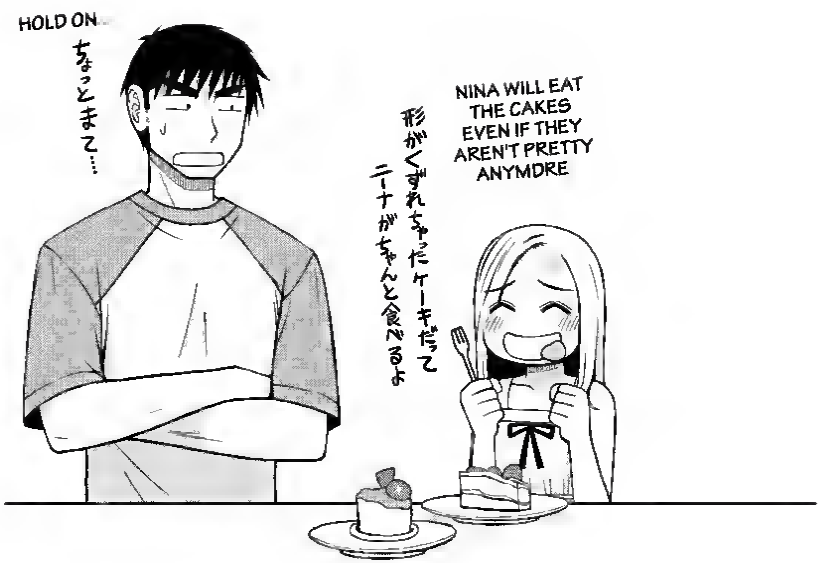
HM?

...
SHUTARO

NINA...
WON'T GET LAUGHED AT BY HER CLASSMATES FOR HER SWIMMING NOW, RIGHT?
WELL, THAT DEPENDS ON WHICH CLASSMATE...
WHAT?!
CHILL, I'M JUST KIDDING...
WELL, WITH YOUR PERSONALITY, I'M SURE YOU'LL GET ALONG WITH THEM JUST FINE...
YOU THINK SO?
NINA'S EXCITED.

NINA'S GONNA MAKE A LOT OF FRIENDS ONCE SCHOOL STARTS!
YEAH!
おーっ
I SEE
WELL, DO YOUR BEST
I WONDER WHAT THE SCHOOL'S LIKE...
AND THE TEACHER
AND NINA'S CLASS-MATES...


OH.
RIGHT. NINA FORGOT.
HEY, WAIT!
I TOLD YOU NOT TO SWING THE BOX OF CAKES AROUND SO MUCH!

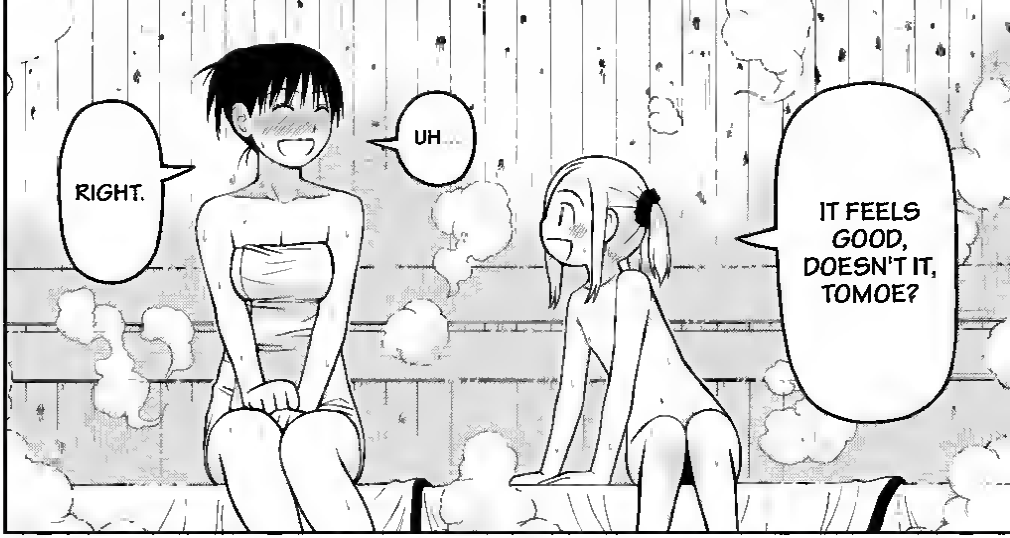

HOLD ON
ちょっとまて…
形がくずれちゃったケーキだって
ニーナがちゃんと食べるよ
NINA WILL EAT
THE CAKES
EVEN IF THEY
AREN'T PRETTY
ANYMDRE

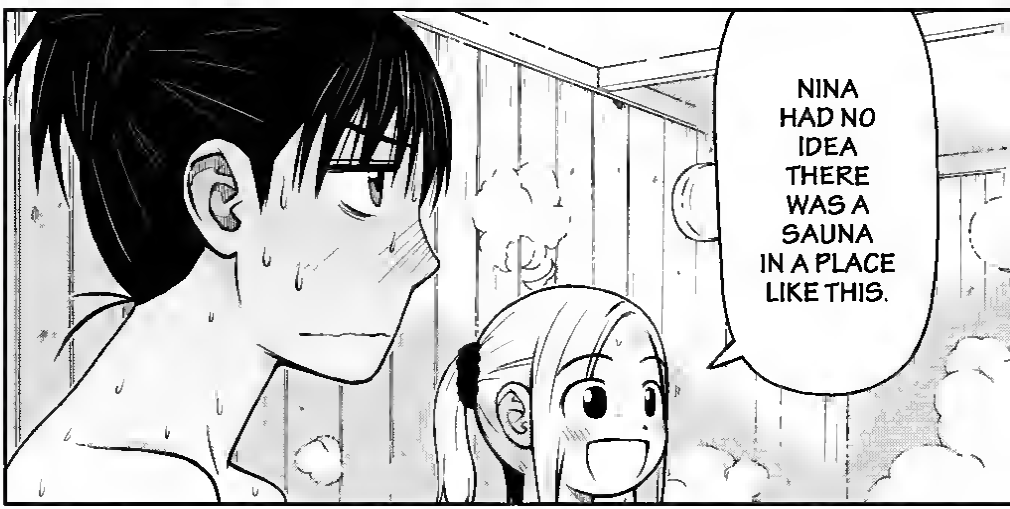
CHAPTER 24

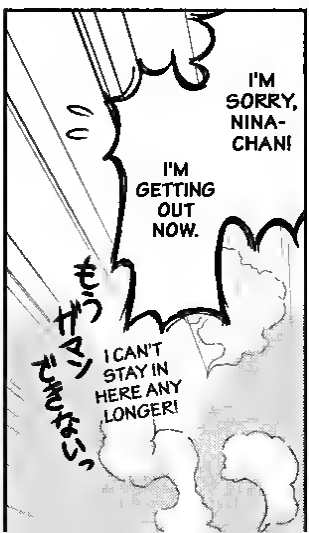
GIRL TALK

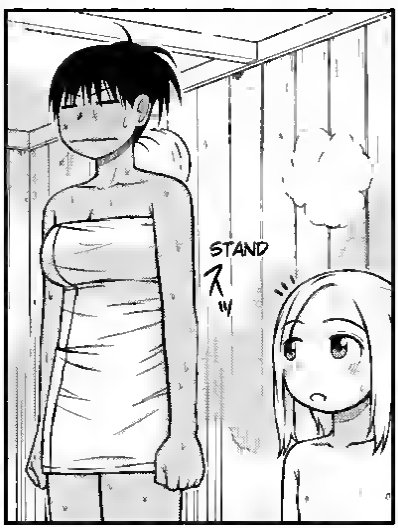
THIS SAUNA...
FEELS SO GOOD!

...


RIGHT.
UH...
IT FEELS GOOD, DOESN'T IT, TOMOE?

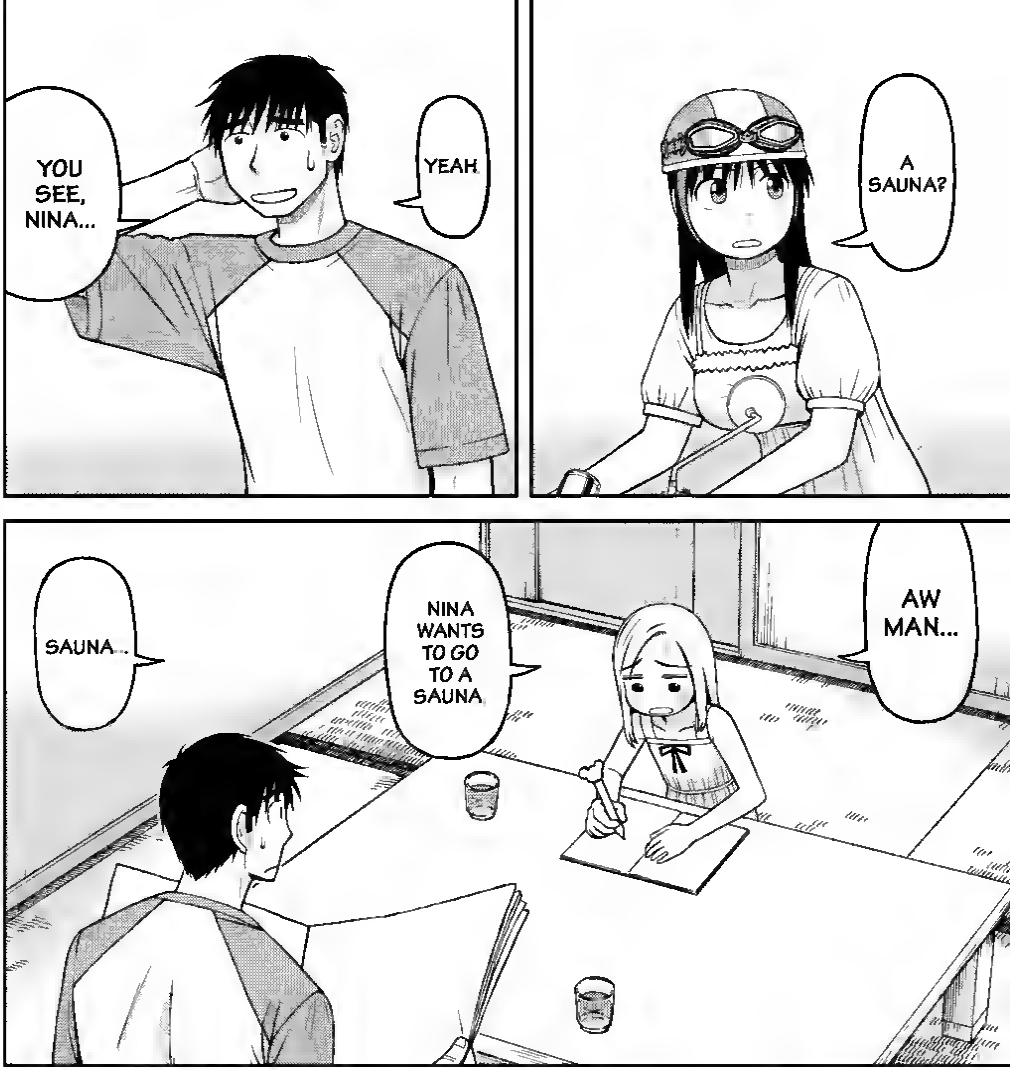

NINA HAD NO IDEA THERE WAS A SAUNA IN A PLACE LIKE THIS.


I'M SORRY, NINA-CHAN!
I'M GETTING OUT NOW.
もう ガマン できないっ
I CAN'T STAY IN HERE ANY LONGER!

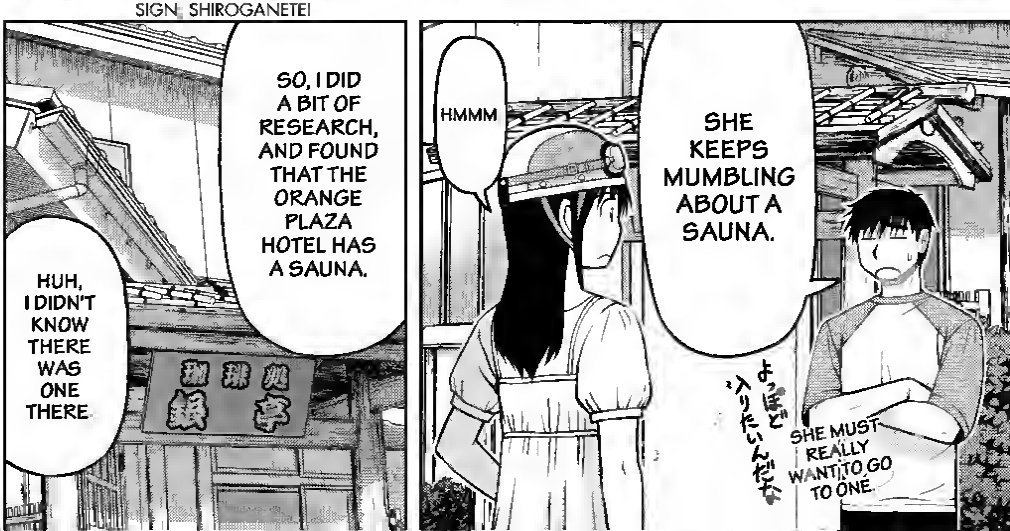

STAND

NINA WISHES SHE COULD COME HERE EVERY DAY.
...

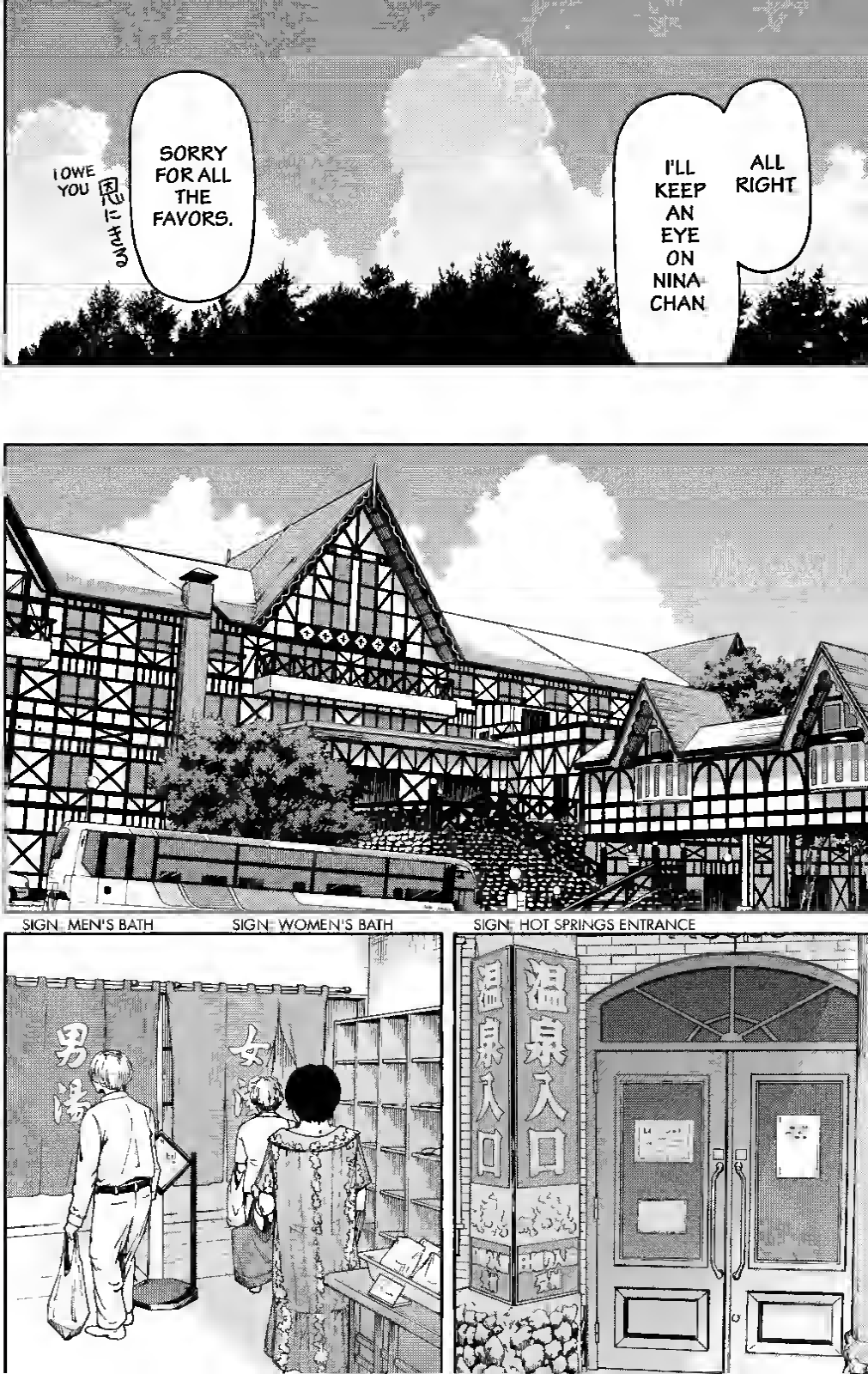
サウナ
TOMOE, ARE YOU OKAY?
フラ DIZZY
フラ2 DIZZY
サウナ
KER-CHAK
ガチャッ
TOMOE!
しっかりして〜っ
GET A HOLD OF YOURSELF!
HUH?



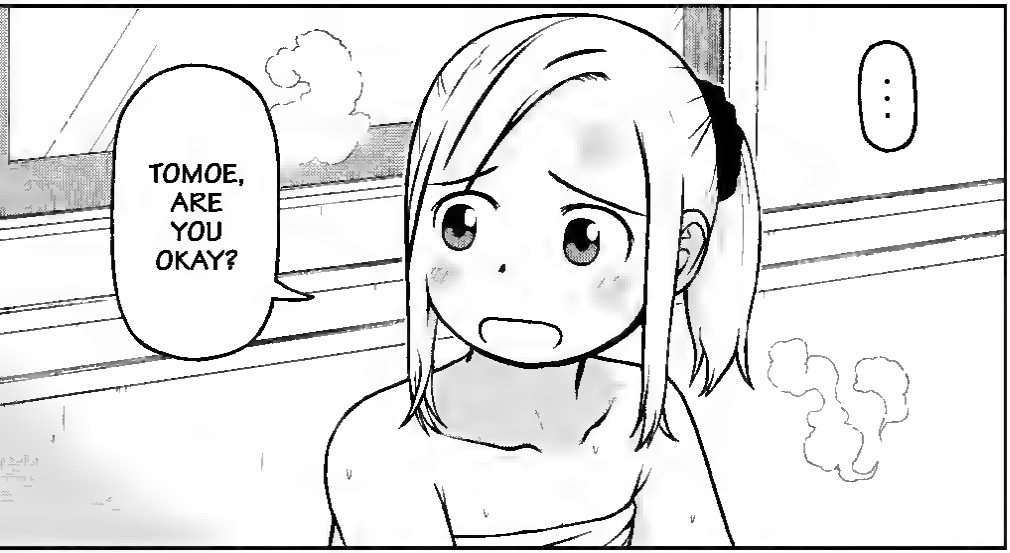
SIGN: SHIROGANETEI


SO, I DID A BIT OF RESEARCH, AND FOUND THAT THE ORANGE PLAZA HOTEL HAS A SAUNA.
HUH, I DIDN'T KNOW THERE WAS ONE THERE.
HMMM
SHE KEEPS MUMBLING ABOUT A SAUNA.
よっぽど入りたいんだな
SHE MUST REALLY WANT TO GO TO ONE.

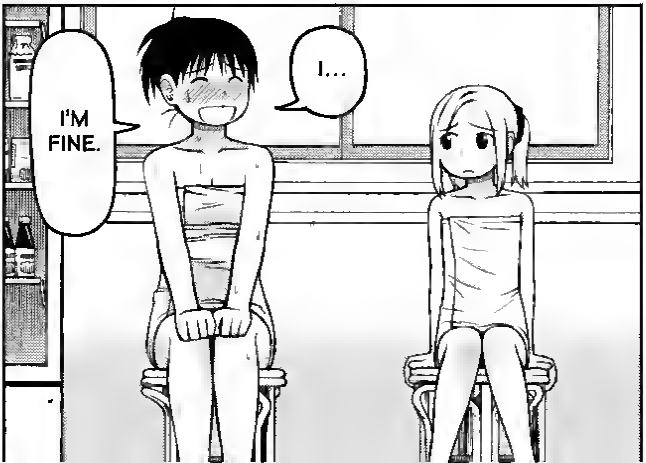
I'M SORRY, TOMOE.
YOU WANT ME TO DRIVE YOU TWO THERE, RIGHT?
I GET IT.
:
ANO WELL...
WOULD YOU GO INTO THE SAUNA WITH NINA?
THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE?
THERE'S ONE OTHER THING.
WHA?
:
WILL YOU DO IT, TOMOE?
WELL, I MEAN, I'M NOT FEMALE, SO I CAN'T GO WITH HER.
YOU'VE GOT A POINT


ALL RIGHT
I'LL KEEP AN EYE ON NINA CHAN
SORRY FOR ALL THE FAVORS.
I OWE YOU 恩にきる
SIGN: MEN'S BATH
SIGN: WOMEN'S BATH
SIGN: HOT SPRINGS ENTRANCE
男湯
女湯
温泉入口
温泉入口

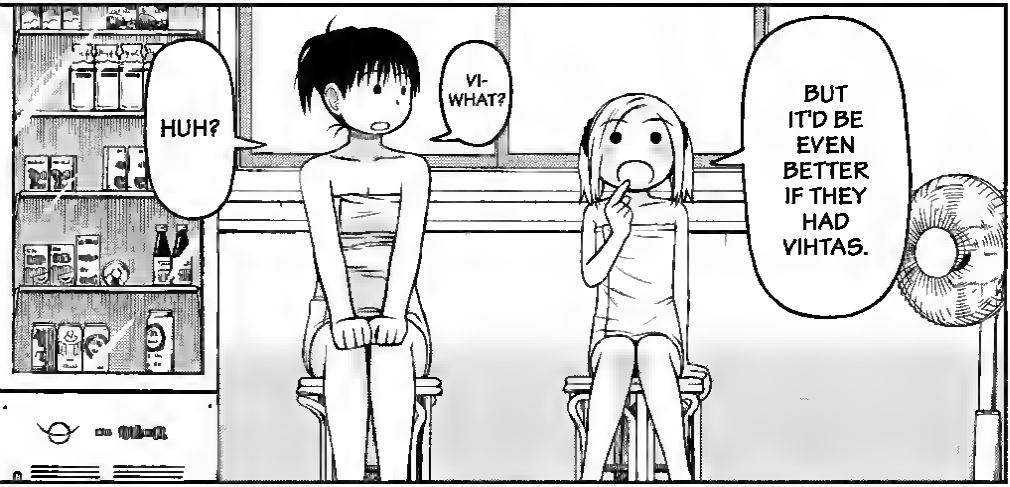
SIGH...


TOMOE, ARE YOU OKAY?
...

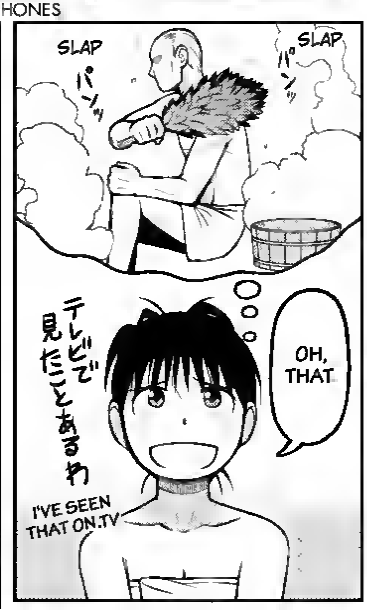
I JUST GOT A LITTLE DIZZY.
OKAY THEN

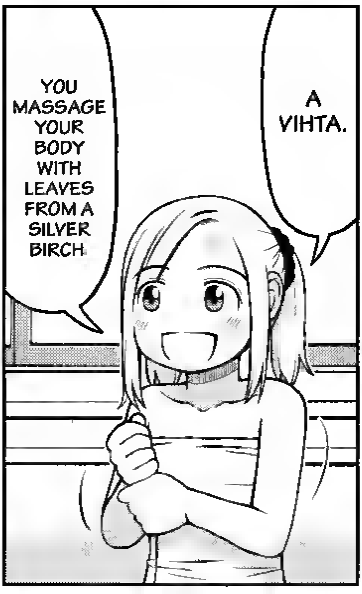

I'M FINE.
I...

...
NINA-CHAN, YOU'RE AMAZING
UNLIKE ME, IT DIDN'T SEEM TO AFFECT YOU AT ALL.
DOES EVERYONE FROM FINLAND HANDLE SAUNAS WELL?
HMM...
NINA DOESN'T KNOW IF THEY HANDLE IT WELL.
BUT EVERYONE LIKES THEM
IT'S THE BIRTHPLACE OF SAUNAS, AFTER ALL
サウナはっしょーの国だもん
NINA'S HOUSE HAD A HUGE SAUNA, SO NINA WENT IN WITH MOMMY ALL THE TIME.
HUH?
YOU HAD A SAUNA IN YOUR HOUSE?
YEP, IT'S LIKE HOW ALL JAPANESE HOUSES HAVE BATHTUBS.
EVERYONE HAS A SAUNA
I SEE.
SAUNAS ARE VERY IMPORTANT TO PEOPLE IN FINLAND.
HUH.



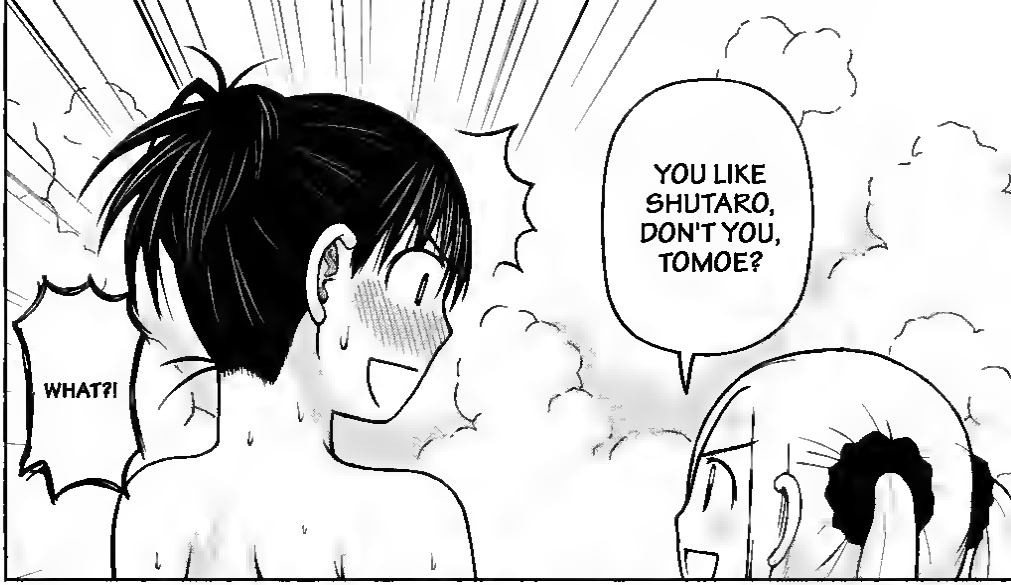
SIGN: NO CIGARETTES OR CELL PHONES

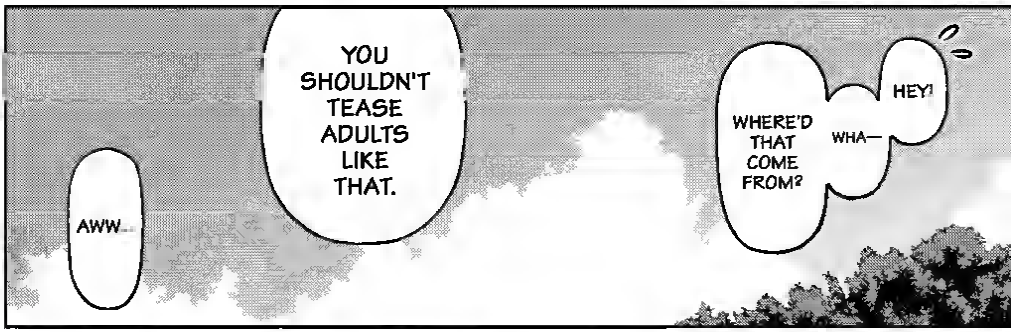


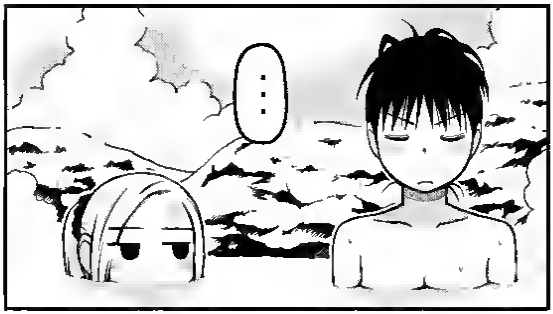


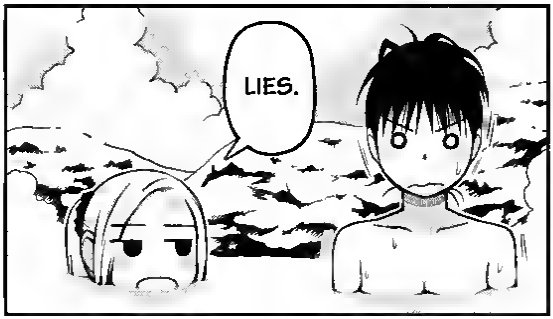
ACHOO
OH.
HEY, NINA-CHAN
SINCE WE'RE HERE, LET'S GO TO THE OUTDOOR HOT SPRINGS, TOO
OKAY.
THE WATER COMES DIRECTLY FROM THE GROUND, SO IT FEELS REALLY GOOD
WOW.
THE GROUND?
SIGH...
SO RELAXING.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, NINA-CHAN?
THE HOT SPRINGS IN KITAKA-RUIZAWA ARE PRETTY NICE TOO, HUH?
YEAH, THIS FEELS GOOD

WELL...
SHU?
DO YOU THINK SHUTARO IS IN THAT ONE OVER THERE?
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE HE'S VISITED THE HOT SPRINGS HERE...
SO HE'S PROBABLY TAKING HIS TIME.
WH—
WHAT, NINA-CHAN?
HE HE HE
SMIRK
SMIRK


YOU LIKE SHUTARO, DON'T YOU, TOMOE?
WHAT?!

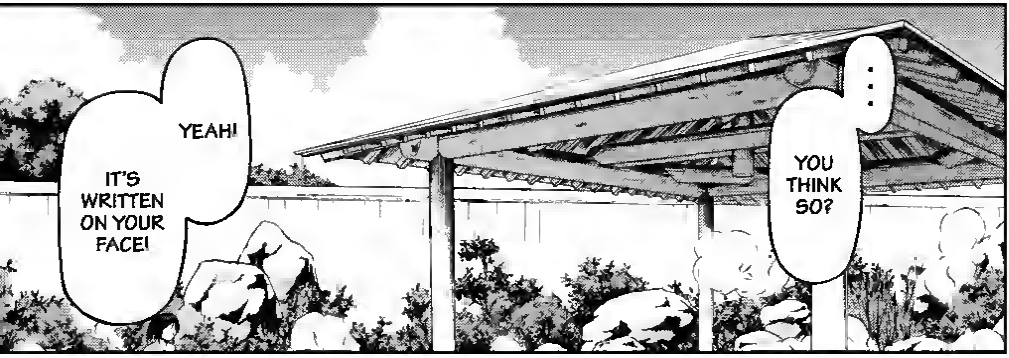

HEY!
WHERE'D THAT COME FROM?
WHA—
YOU SHOULDN'T TEASE ADULTS LIKE THAT.
AWW...


...


LIES.

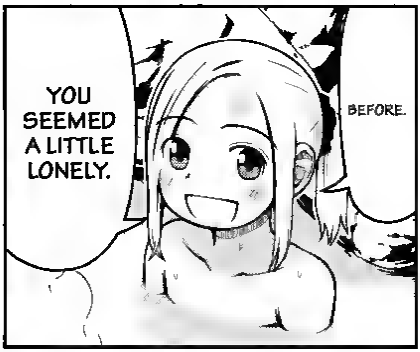
I...
DON'T FEEL ANYTHING FOR SHU AT ALL.

EH?
YOU SEEM MUCH HAPPIER SINCE SHUTARO'S RETURNED HOME.
WELL, TOMOE...

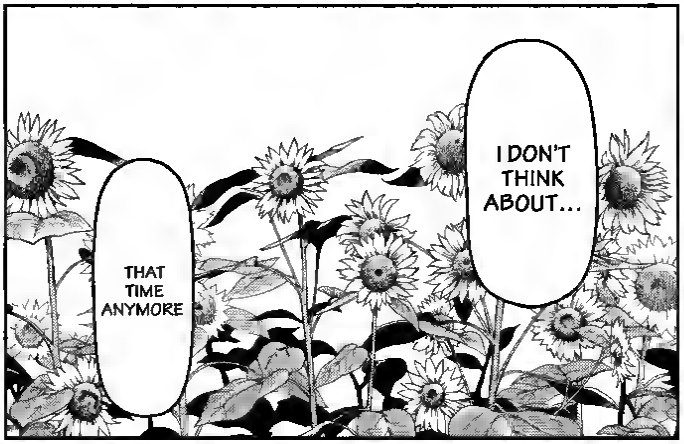

YEAH!
IT'S WRITTEN ON YOUR FACE!
...
YOU THINK SO?

I'M DEFINITELY HAPPY
SEE?

...
YEAH


YOU SEEMED A LITTLE LONELY.
BEFORE.

NOW YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE ENJOYING LIFE



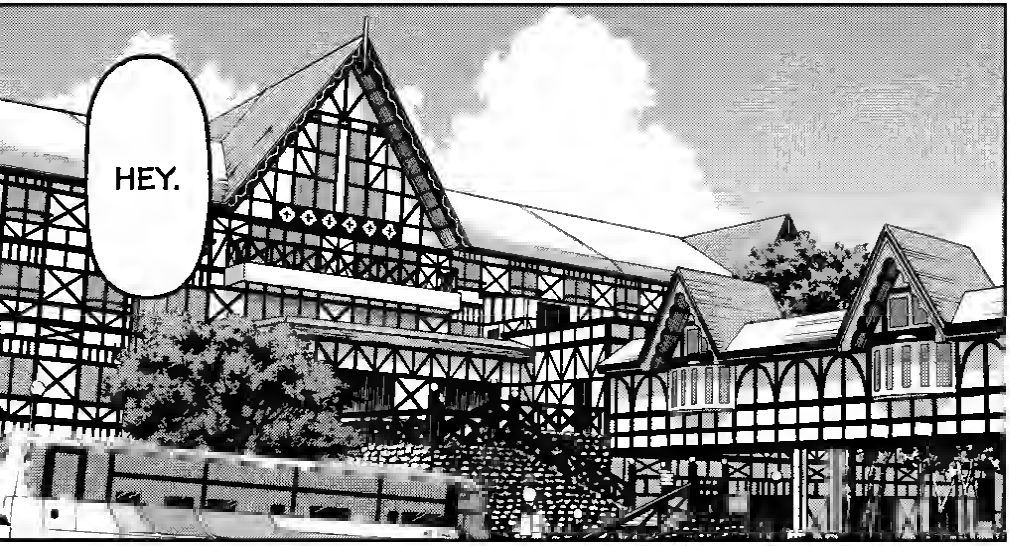
BUT...

I DON'T KNOW IF I LIKE HIM OR NOT...

NINA THINKS
THAT YOU TWO WOULD BE A GOOD COUPLE.
REALLY?
NOT REALLY.
SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
DOES THAT MAKE SENSE?
IT'S NOT THAT
I DON'T LIKE SHU OR ANYTHING.
...
SORT OUT HIS JOB...
IF HE WOULD
I KNOW BETTER THAN ANYONE THAT HE'S A GREAT GUY.
HE'S TALL...
HE'S NOT HARD ON THE EYES.

GASP
はっ
SMIRK
ニヤ
SMIRK
ニヤ
SEE?
JEEZ,
NINA-CHAN CUT ME SOME SLACK.
JUST GET MARRIED ALREADY.
IT IS NORMAL FOR CHILDHOOD FRIENDS TO GET MARRIED, AFTER ALL.
IT'S NOT NORMAL AT ALL.
I'VE NEVER SEEN THAT HAPPEN IN REAL LIFE.
YOU'RE AT THAT AGE, TOMOE.
ER...

PL—
PLEASE...
DON'T TALK ABOUT MY AGE.
...
OKAY


HEY.

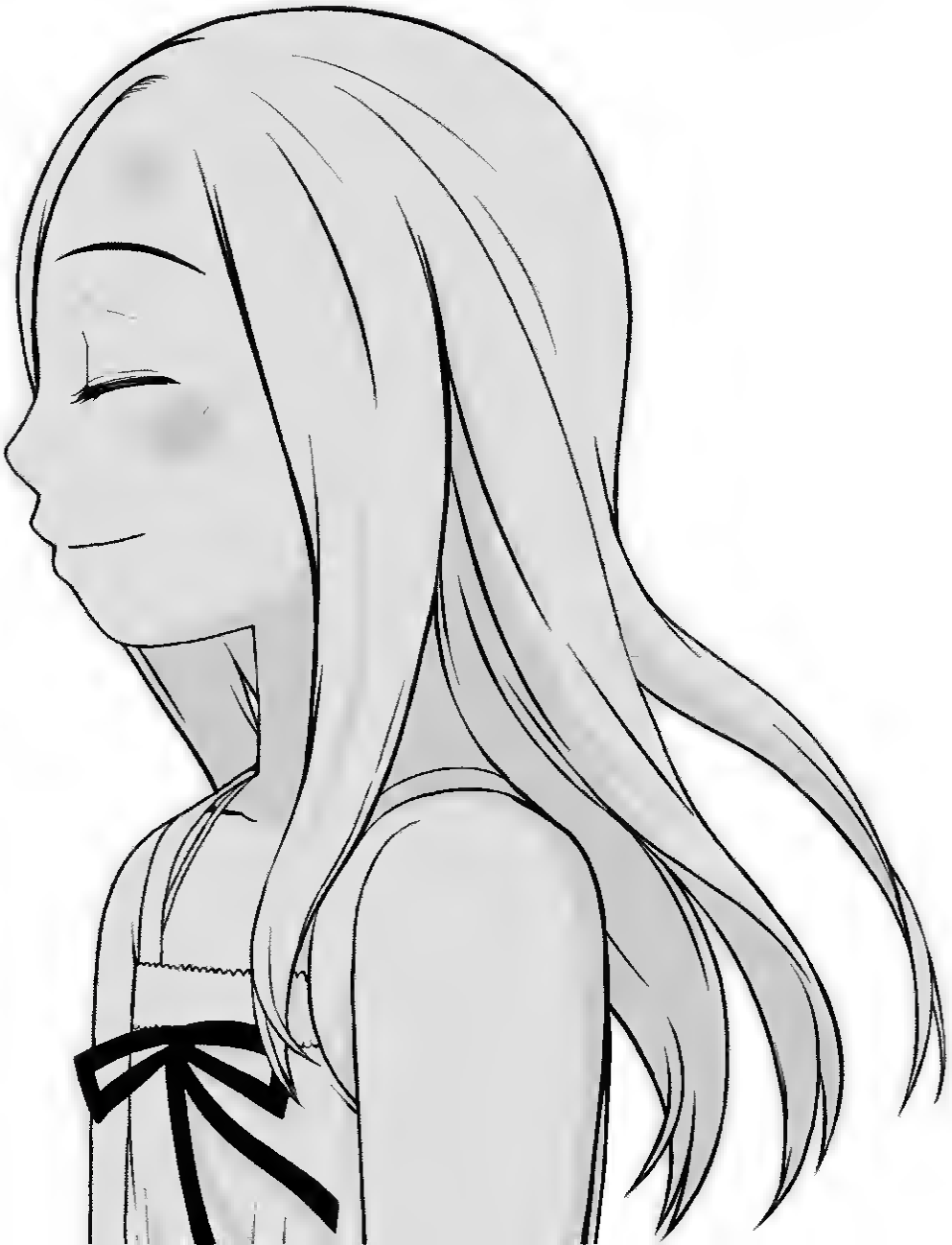
NINA ENJOYED IT!
まんきつしたー!
DID YOU TWO HAVE A GOOD TIME?

HOW WERE THE HOT SPRINGS?

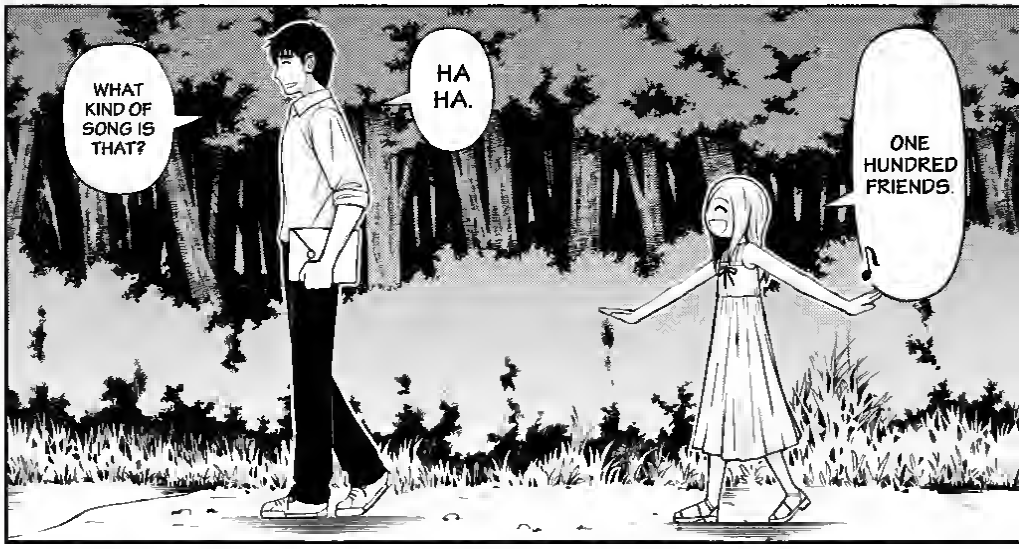
YOUR FACE IS ALL RED.
TOMOE
HM?
DID YOU STAY IN TOO LONG?
DO YOU WANT ME TO DRIVE FOR YOU?
SHU...
I...
I DROVE THE TWO OF YOU ALL THE WAY OVER HERE!
R-RIGHT...
SO AT LEAST BUY ME DINNER!
ARE YOU MAD ABOUT SOMETHING?

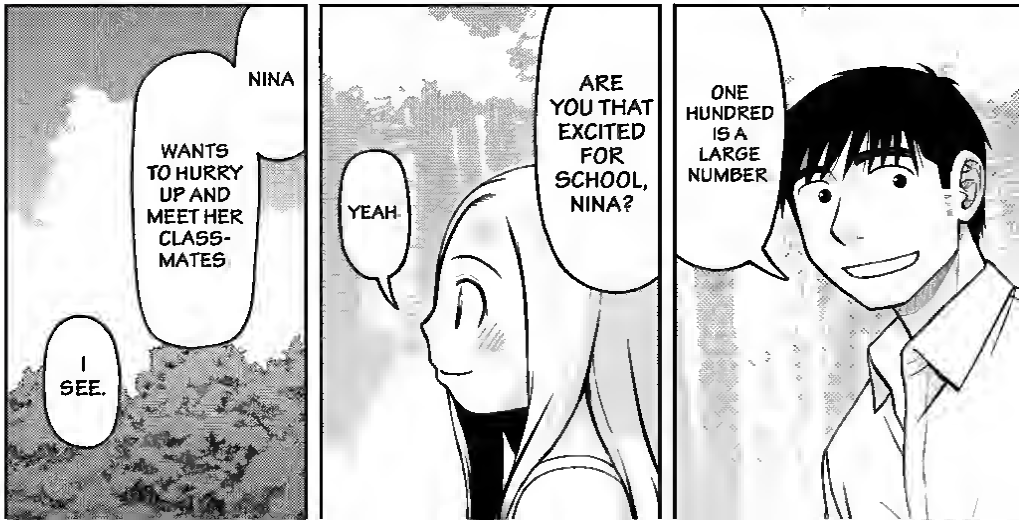
CHAPTER 25

FULLY PREPARED



I WANT TO MAKE...
ONE HUNDRED FRIENDS...


ONE HUNDRED FRIENDS.
HA HA.
WHAT KIND OF SONG IS THAT?


ONE HUNDRED IS A LARGE NUMBER.
ARE YOU THAT EXCITED FOR SCHOOL, NINA?
YEAH.
NINA WANTS TO HURRY UP AND MEET HER CLASS-MATES.
I SEE.

ISN'T IT STILL SUMMER VACATION?
WHY ARE WE GOING TO SCHOOL TODAY?
BUT SHUTARO

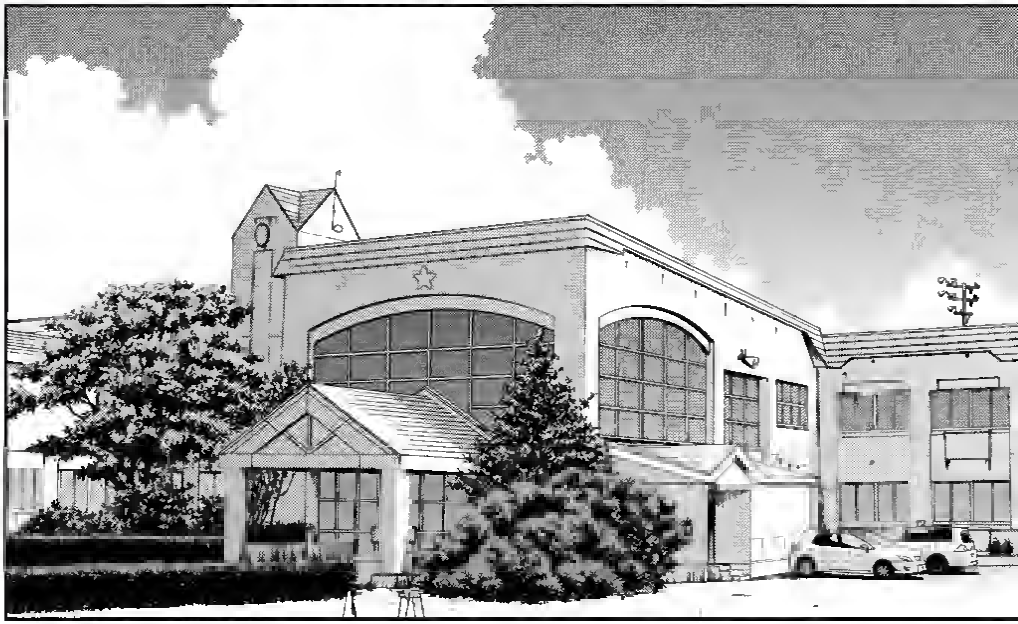
HMM, WONDER WHAT THE TEACHER'S LIKE.
HOPEFULLY THEY'RE A GOOD ONE.
YEAH.

WE'RE ALSO GOING TO GO MEET YOUR TEACHER.

OHH.
WE'VE GOT TO INTRODUCE YOU TO THEM.

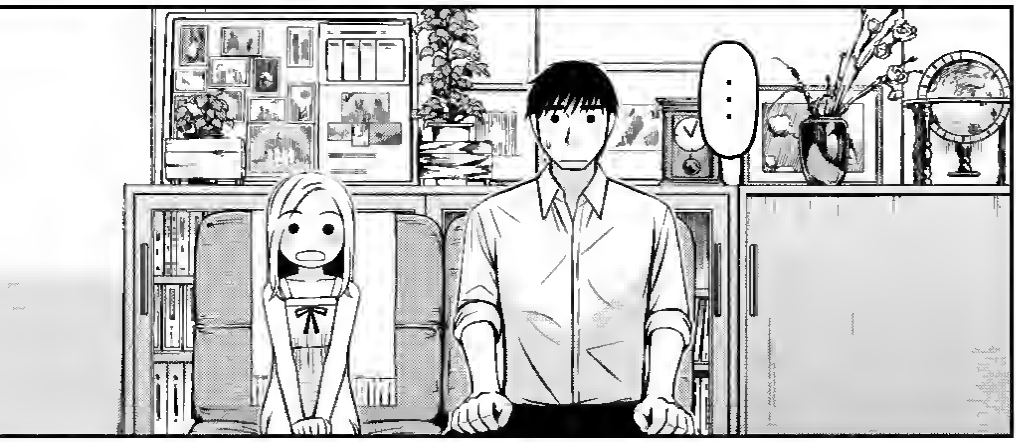
YEAH.
WE'RE GOING SO WE CAN TURN IN YOUR ENROLLMENT PAPERS AND TO DO OTHER RELATED THINGS, TOO.
OTHER THINGS?

SIGN: NAGANOHARAMACHI KITAKARUI SECOND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



SIGN: CONFERENCE ROOM

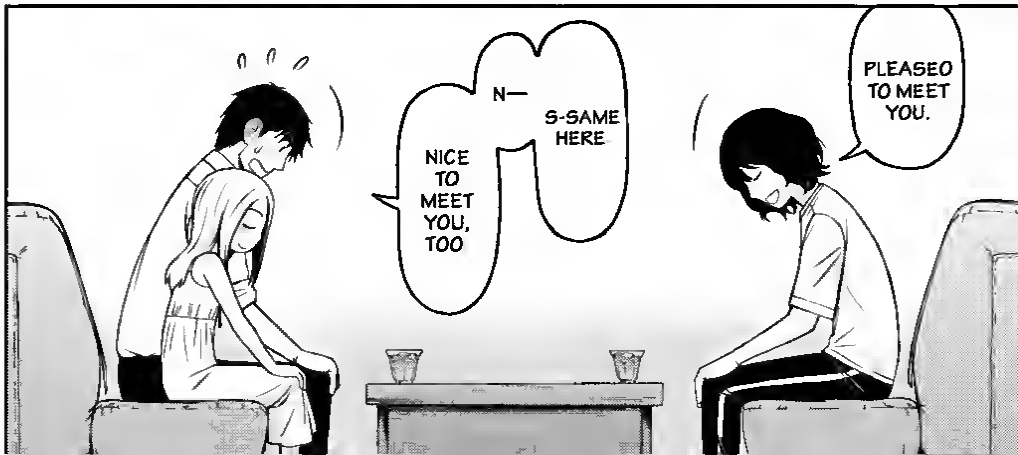
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
IT'S SO HOT!

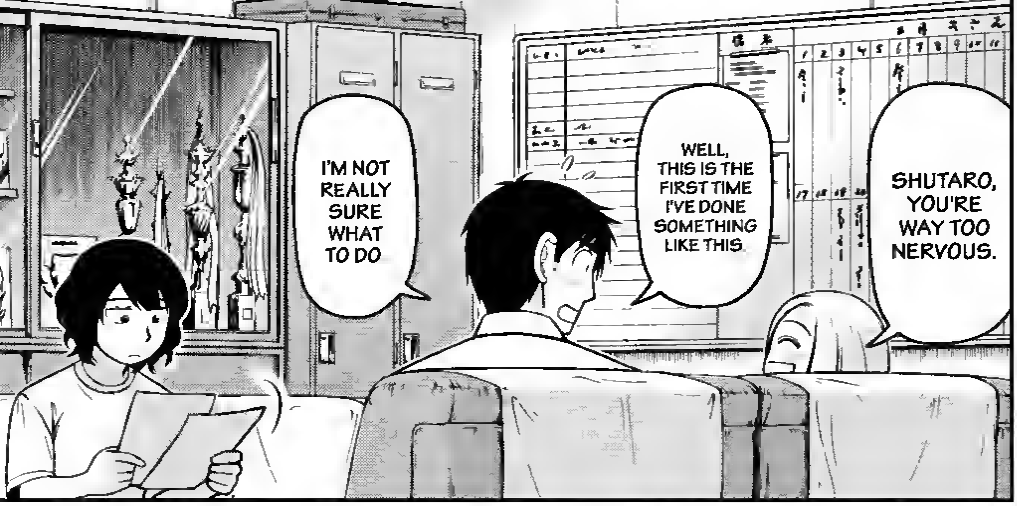

...

ESPECIALLY CONSIDERING THAT PARENTS COME VISIT IN THIS HEAT
STINGY, DON'T YOU THINK?
THE VICE-PRINCIPAL SAYS WE CAN'T USE THE AIR CONDITIONER

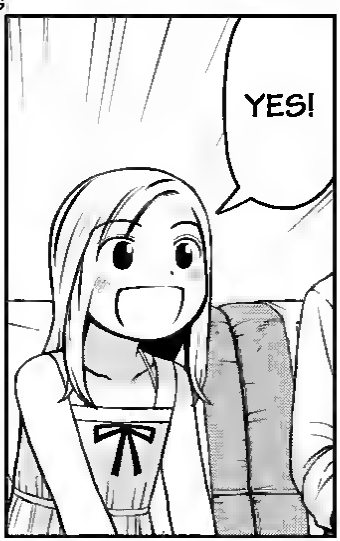
ALL RIGHT,
ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MYSELF.
WE'LL TAKE SOME.
SURE.
WOULD YOU AT LEAST LIKE SOME COLD BARELY TEA?

YOU CAN CALL ME HAYAKAWA.
I'M THE FOURTH-GRADE TEACHER...

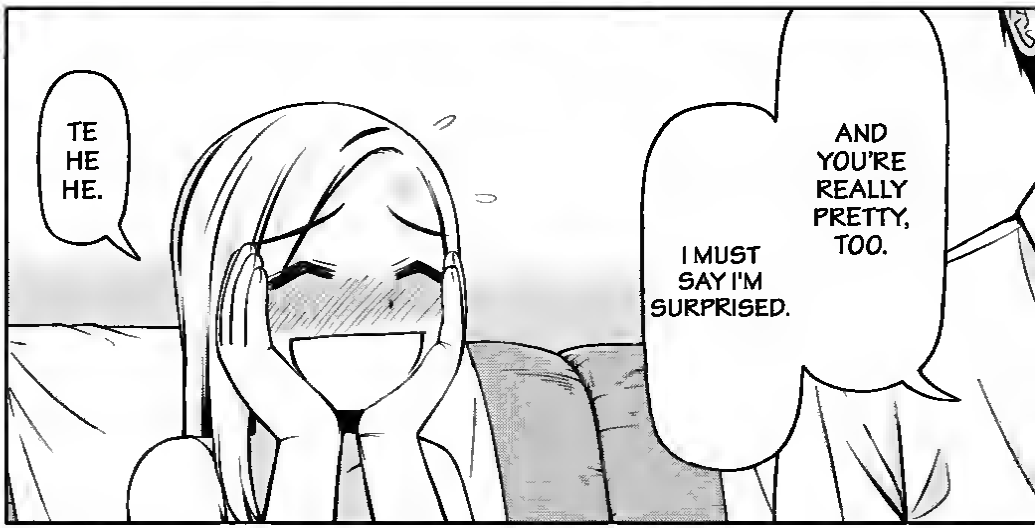

N—
S-SAME HERE
NICE TO MEET YOU, TOO
PLEASED TO MEET YOU.



*A "SPARKLY" NAME THAT SOUNDS GOOD, BUT DOESN'T ACTUALLY MEAN ANYTHING



SO YOU'RE HALF-JAPANESE
I SEE...


TE HE HE.
I MUST SAY I'M SURPRISED.
AND YOU'RE REALLY PRETTY, TOO.

OH. NO.
SO IS YOUR WIFE A FOREIGNER, THEN?
LISTEN TO WHAT YOUR TEACHER'S SAYING, NOW.
SHE SAID NINA WAS PRETTY!

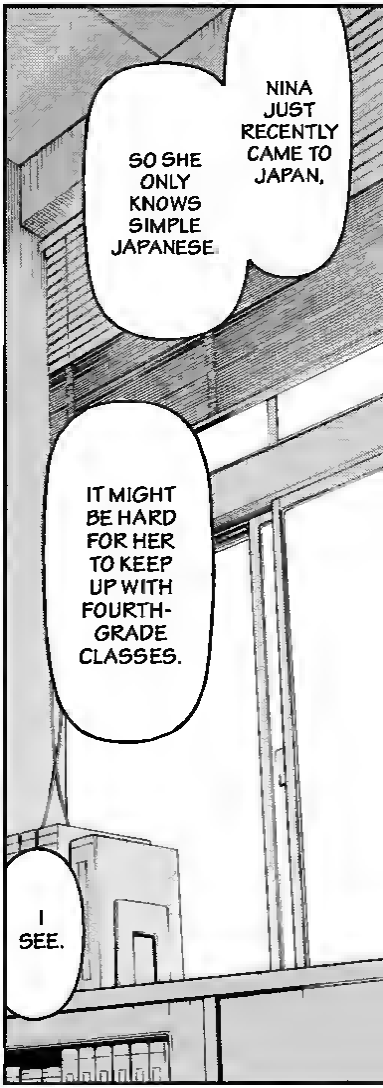
NINA IS MY SISTER'S DAUGHTER
HER FATHER IS FINNISH
OH.
HUH.
UM...
I'M HER UNCLE, BUT I'M HELPING HER GRANDPARENTS TAKE CARE OF HER DUE TO RECENT EVENTS
OH, MY...
SO IT'S DUE TO RECENT EVENTS
WHAT KIND OF EVENTS, I WONDER...
I'M CURIOUS
SMIRK
SMIRK
EH,
IT'S REALLY NOT THAT BIG A DEAL...
...IS WHAT HAPPENED.
OH, SO IT REALLY WASN'T A BIG DEAL.
HA HA...

SURE
WHAT MIGHT THAT BE?

SEEING AS YOU'RE NINA'S TEACHER, THERE'S SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO DISCUSS WITH YOU.

SO...

SO...
I WAS HOPING YOU COULD HELP HER OUT A BIT.

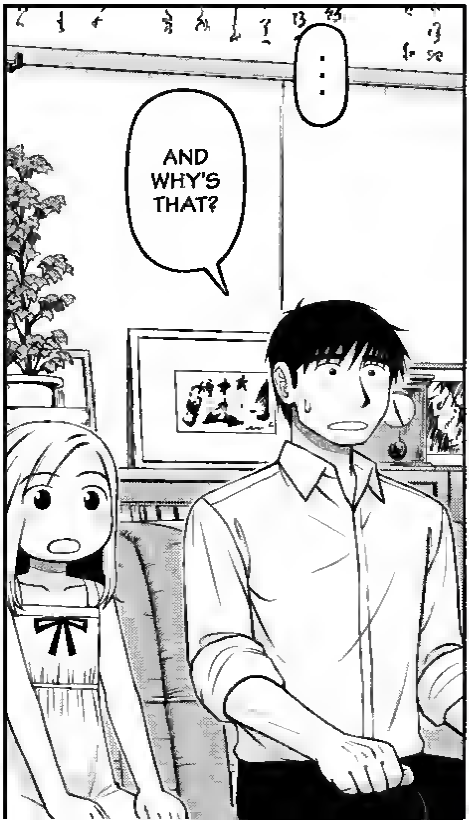

NINA JUST RECENTLY CAME TO JAPAN.
SO SHE ONLY KNOWS SIMPLE JAPANESE.
IT MIGHT BE HARD FOR HER TO KEEP UP WITH FOURTH-GRADE CLASSES.
I SEE.

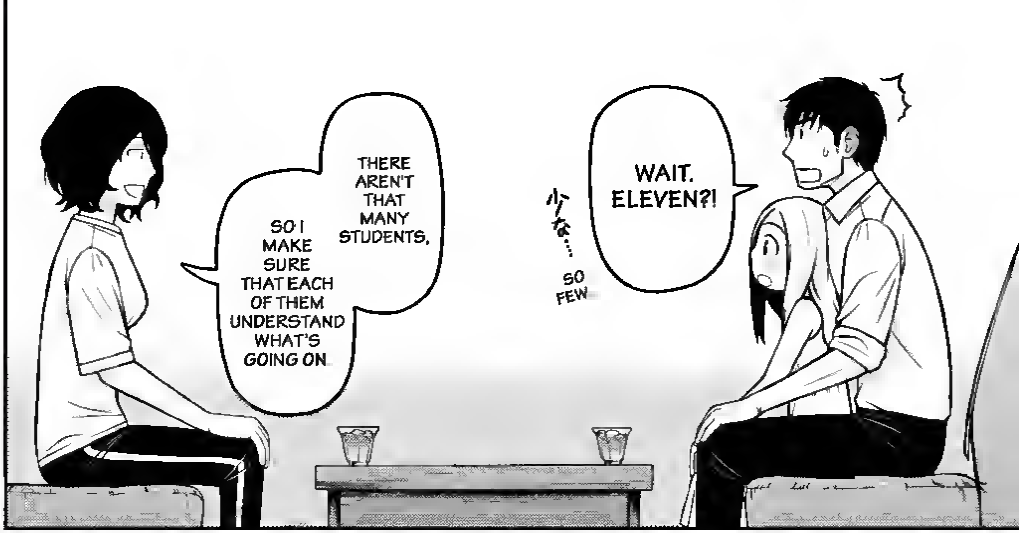
OH...

HMM...
うーん
YOU SAY THAT, BUT...
SHUTARO,
NINA WILL STUDY LOTS SO IT'LL BE OKAY

DON'T WORRY.
THAT WON'T BE A PROBLEM AT ALL.

YOU SEE...
WE ONLY HAVE 11 STUDENTS IN OUR FOURTH-GRADE CLASS.
RIGHT...


...
AND WHY'S THAT?

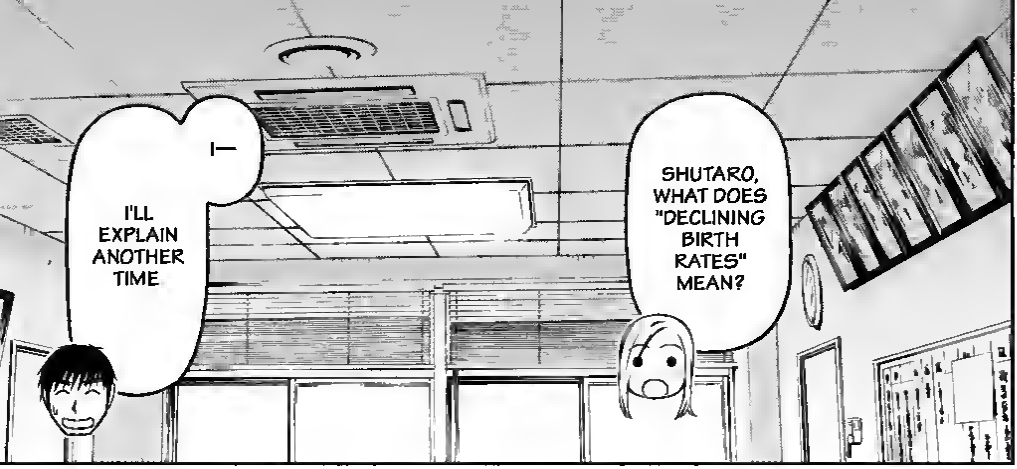

WAIT. ELEVEN?!
少な…
SO FEW
THERE AREN'T THAT MANY STUDENTS,
SO I MAKE SURE THAT EACH OF THEM UNDERSTAND WHAT'S GOING ON.

SO...
I DON'T THINK I'LL HAVE A PROBLEM MAKING SURE NINA-SAN IS KEEPING UP.
I SEE.
THAT'LL BE GREAT.

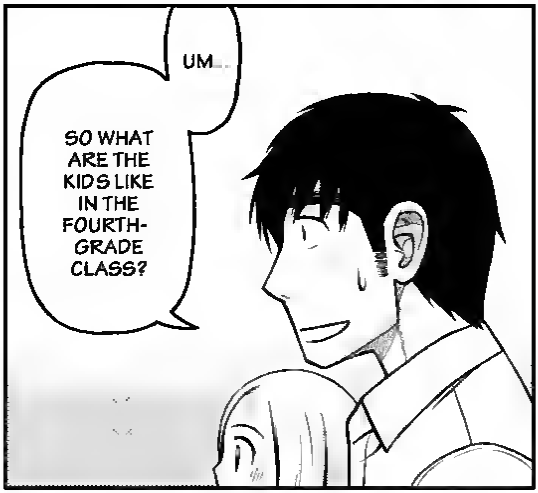
WELL
IT'S EASIER FOR ME TO WORK WITH SMALLER CLASSES, SO I'M THANKFUL FOR THAT.
RIGHT

ARE THE OTHER CLASSES THAT SMALL AS WELL?
YES

WE ARE IN THE AGE OF DECLINING BIRTH RATES, AFTER ALL.


I—
I'LL EXPLAIN ANOTHER TIME
SHUTARO, WHAT DOES "DECLINING BIRTH RATES" MEAN?

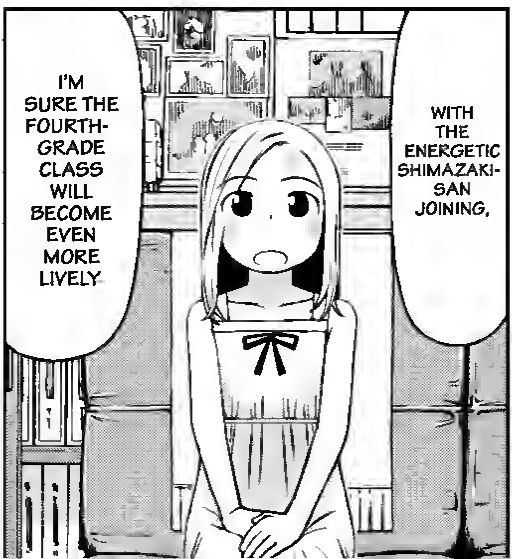
WELL...


UM...
SO WHAT ARE THE KIDS LIKE IN THE FOURTH-GRADE CLASS?

THOSE TWO ARE PRETTY MUCH THE CORE OF THE CLASS.
AND A VERY ENERGETIC TOMBOY.
THERE'S A GIRL WHO'S VERY GOOD WITH HER STUDIES THAT'S OUR CLASS REPRESENTATIVE

OUT OF THE BOYS, THERE ARE A FEW THAT LIKE TO PLAY PRANKS AND TEASE,
BUT AT THIS AGE, THE GIRLS TEND TO OVERPOWER THE BOYS.

I SEE.
ANYWAY, ALL 11 OF THEM ARE GREAT KIDS.


I'M SURE THE FOURTH-GRADE CLASS WILL BECOME EVEN MORE LIVELY
WITH THE ENERGETIC SHIMAZAKI-SAN JOINING,

WE'LL HAVE 12.
AND WITH THE ADDITION OF SHIMAZAKI-SAN,

IT'LL BE A PLEASURE TO HAVE YOU FOR THE FALL SEMESTER,
SHIMAZAKI-SAN.

THANK YOU!

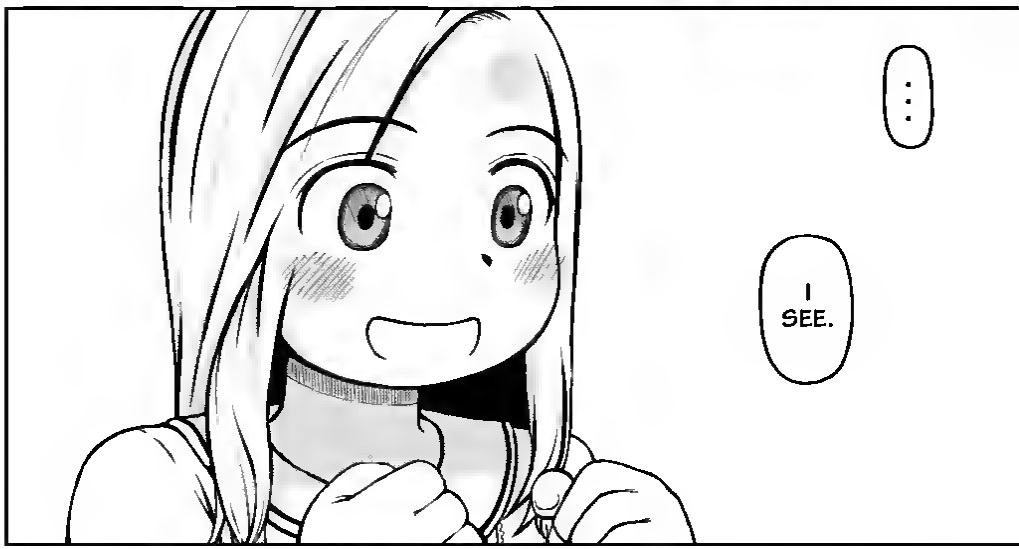
...

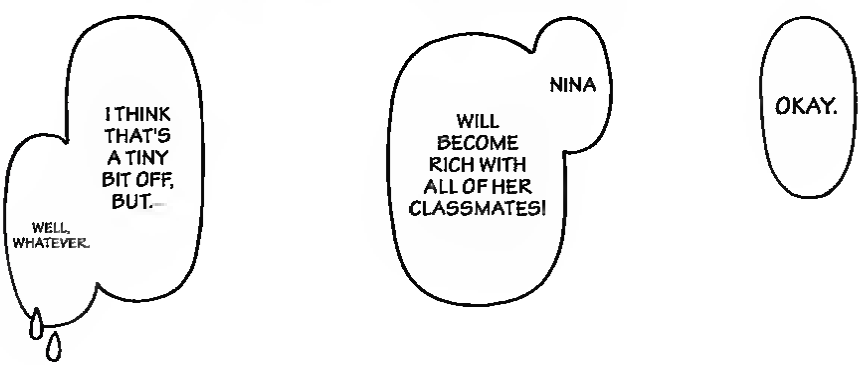
SURE..
THERE ARE A FEW THINGS THAT YOU SHOULD KNOW, SHUTARO-SAN.
BY THE WAY..

NEXT, IN REGARDS TO JOINING THE PTA.
PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU BUY THEM BEFORE SCHOOL STARTS.
ALSO, HERE IS A LIST OF SCHOOL SUPPLIES SHE'LL NEED.
AS IT'LL GET DIRTY EASILY
FIRST, SHE WON'T BE ABLE TO WEAR A WHITE DRESS LIKE THAT TO SCHOOL,
HUH?
PTA?!
GOT IT
AH, TRUE.

SHE WAS DEFINITELY ENERGETIC
うーん
HMM
SHE WAS A FUN TEACHER, WASN'T SHE?
WELL,
SHE DID SAY SHE'LL KEEP AN EYE ON YOU SINCE THERE AREN'T MANY STUDENTS...
SO I THINK... SHE SEEMS LIKE A GOOD TEACHER.
...
WHAT'S WRONG?
NINA WANTED A LOT MORE CLASSMATES
THAT'S RIGHT
YOU WERE SAYING THAT YOU WANTED TO MAKE 100 FRIENDS BY THE TIME SCHOOL STARTED
YEAH
0

LIKE, A RICH RELATION-SHIP?
YEAH, LIKE THAT.
DEEP RELATION-SHIP?
IT'S MORE IMPORTANT TO HAVE A DEEP RELATION-SHIP WITH ONE PERSON.
NUMBERS AREN'T IMPORTANT.

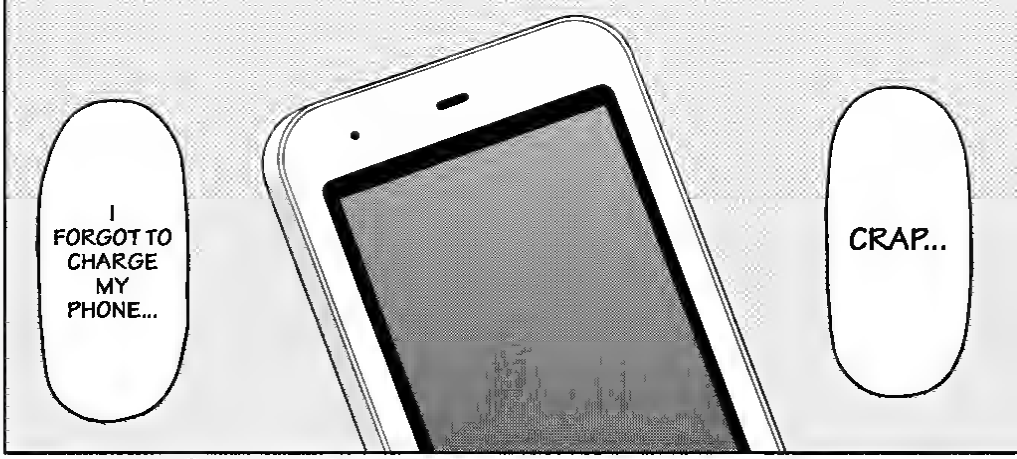

...
I SEE.


I THINK THAT'S A TINY BIT OFF, BUT.
WELL, WHATEVER.
NINA WILL BECOME RICH WITH ALL OF HER CLASSMATES!
OKAY.

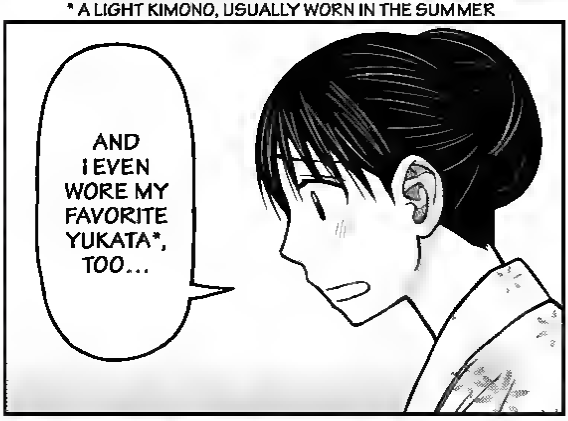
I HOPE SCHOOL STARTS SOON!
早く学校はじまらないかな～

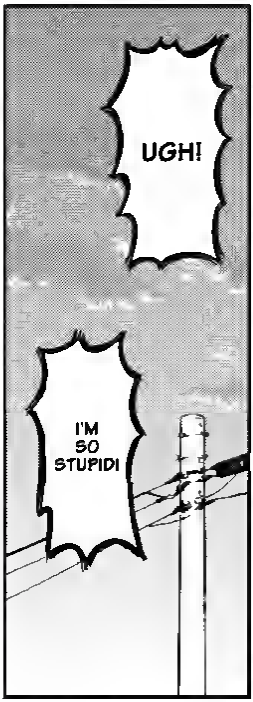
CHAPTER 26

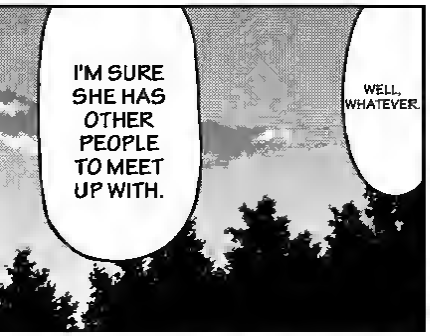
DURING AND AFTER THE FESTIVAL



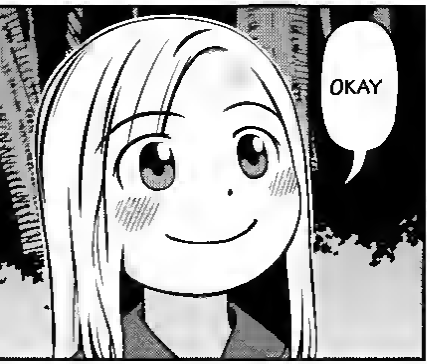
* A LIGHT KIMONO, USUALLY WORN IN THE SUMMER

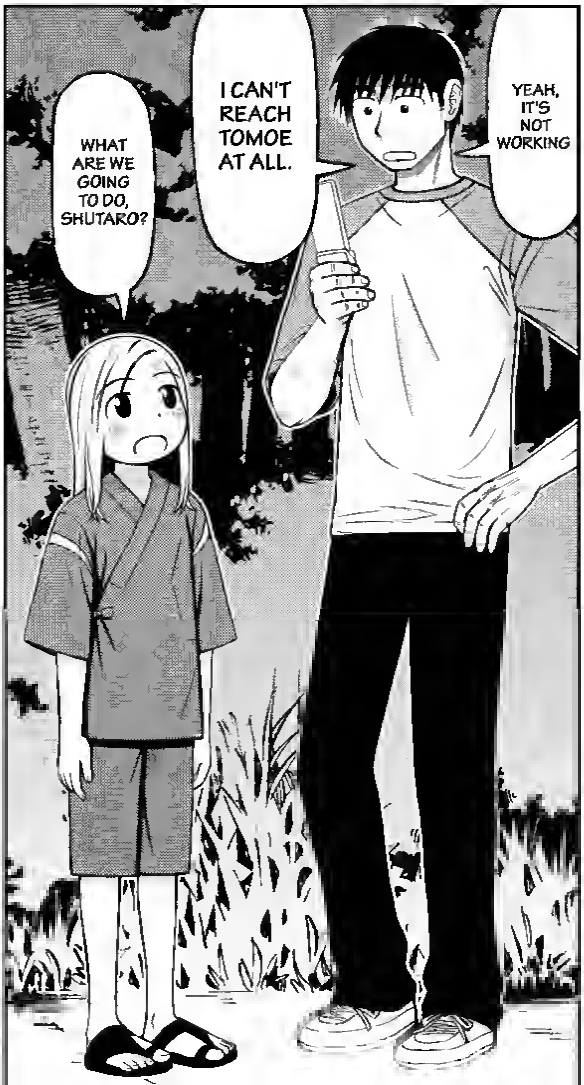


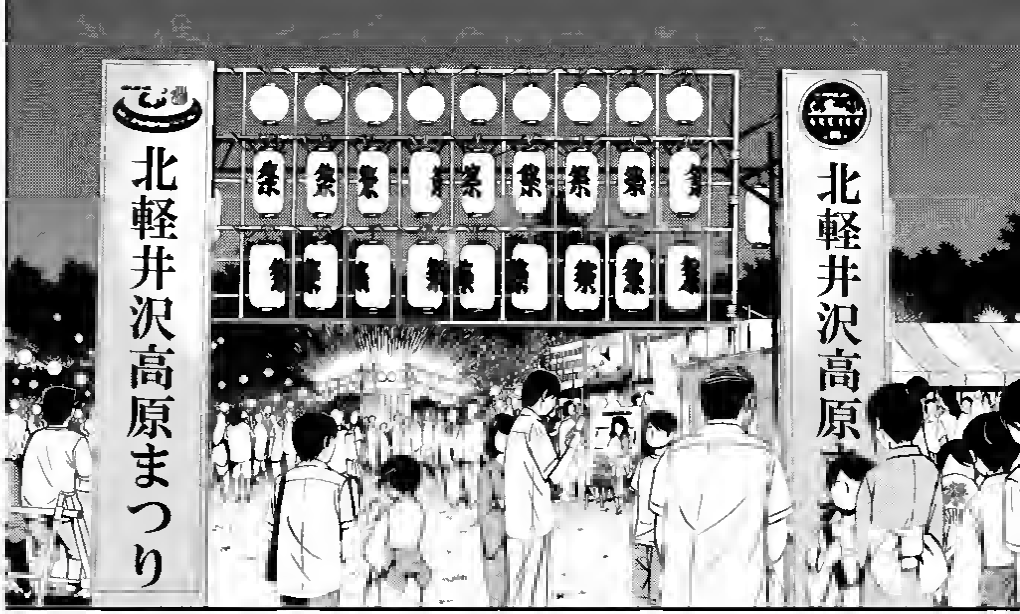



I'M SURE SHE HAS OTHER PEOPLE TO MEET UP WITH.
WELL, WHATEVER.

LET'S JUST ENJOY THE FESTIVAL TODAY TO THE FULLEST, JUST THE TWO OF US.

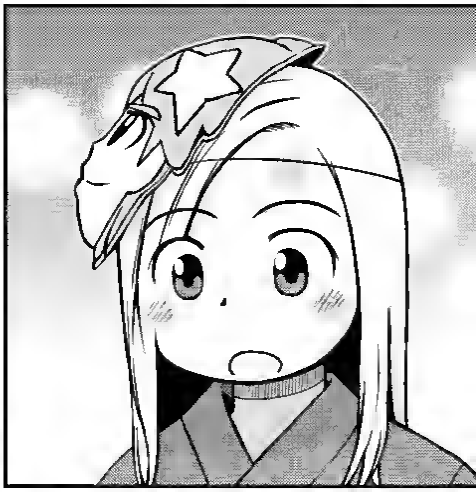

OKAY


WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO, SHUTARO?
I CAN'T REACH TOMOE AT ALL.
YEAH, IT'S NOT WORKING

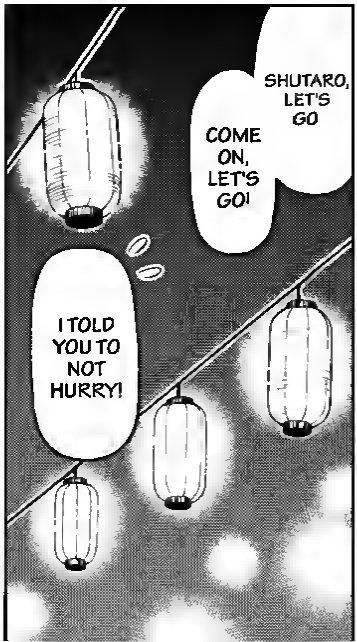


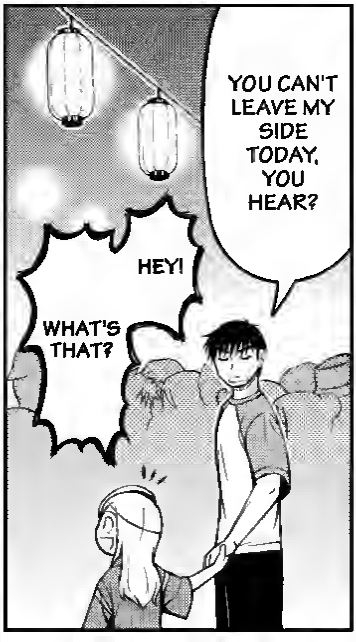
SIGN: KITA KARUIZAWA HIGHLANDS FESTIVAL

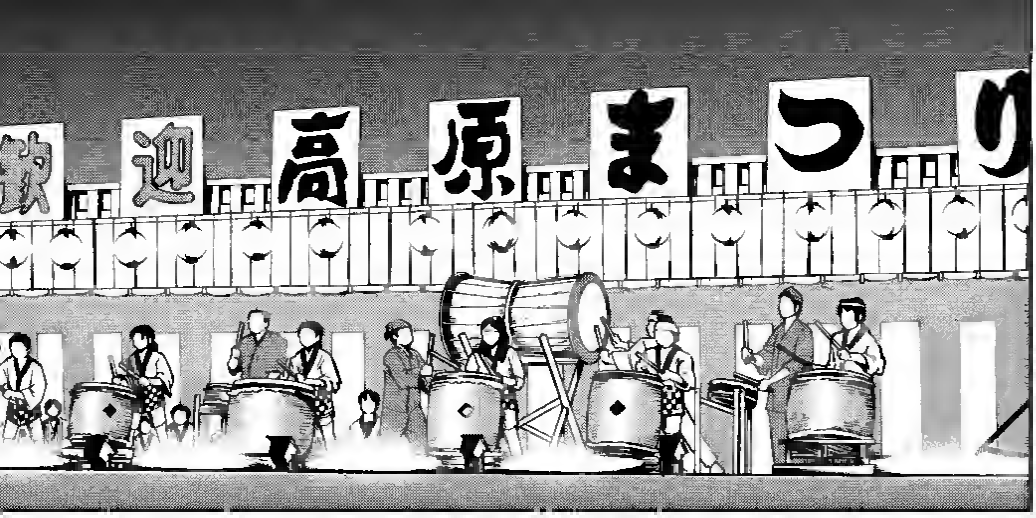
SIGN: SPECIAL FRIED SQUID



SIGN: APRICOT CANDY

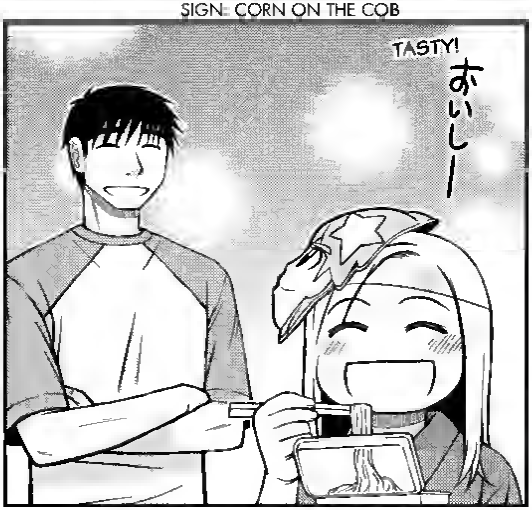






SIGN: HIGHLANDS FESTIVAL

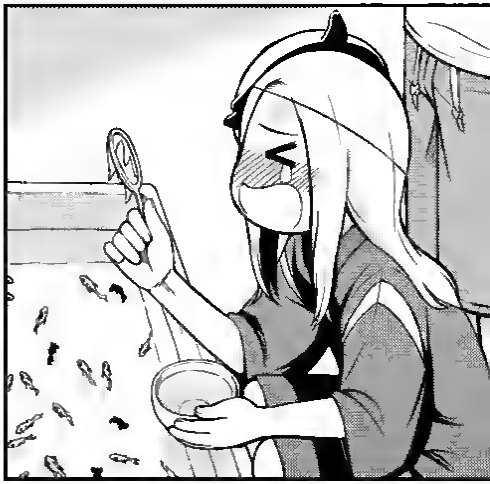
SIGN: CORN ON THE COB



SIGN: YO-YO FISHING

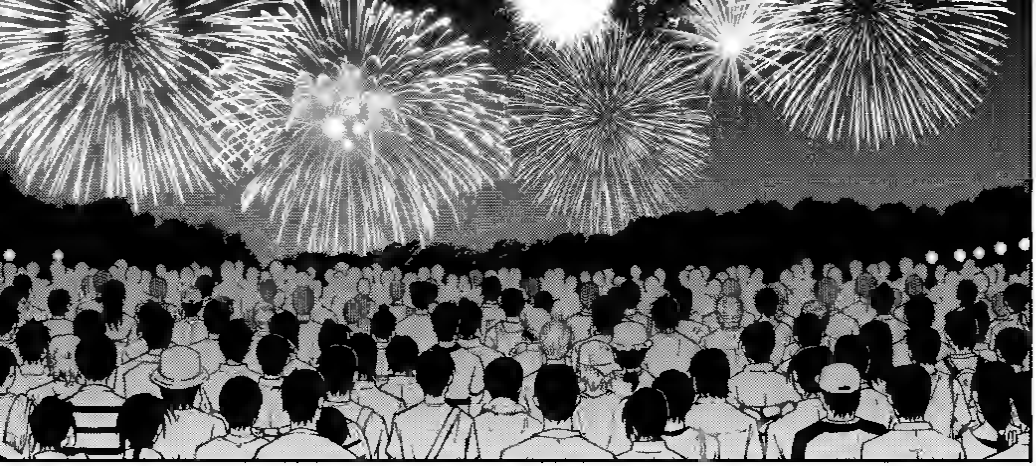
HA HA.
はは
WHY?
AWW
SPLASH
ぽちゃっ
OKAY
I'LL SHOW YOU HOW IT'S DONE.
YEAH
IT'S ACTUALLY PRETTY TOUGH, HUH?
ALL RIGHT! WE GOT ONE!
SHUTARO, YOU'RE AMAZING!
GENTLY, GENTLY...
TRY TO NOT LET THE STRING GET WET.
TRY NOT TO AIM FOR THE BIGGER ONES

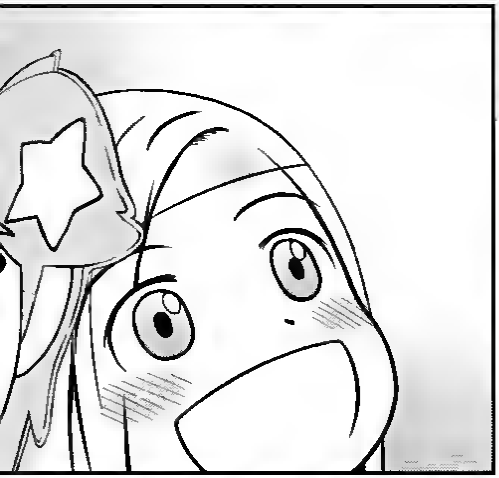
SIGN: GOLDFISH SCOOPING

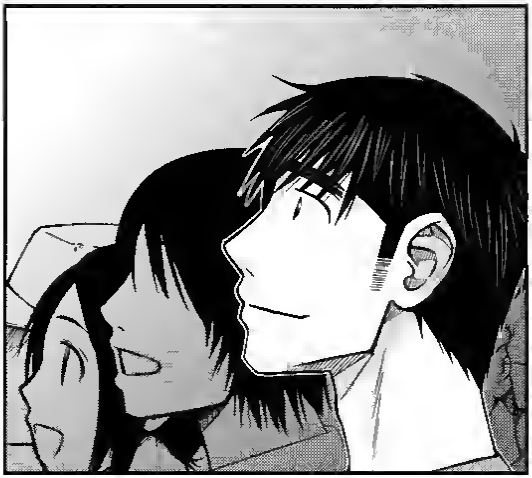


FSSSSSH
ヒュルルルルルル
ドン!!
BOOM

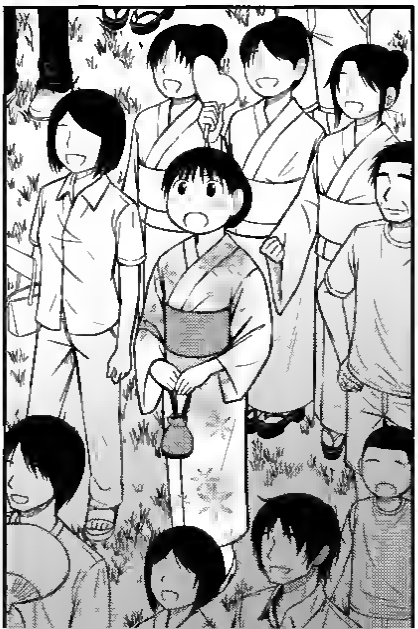
SHUTARO, THE SKY IS FILLED WITH FIREWORKS!
WHOA!
WE'RE REALLY CLOSE TO WHERE THEY'RE LIGHTING THEM, SO THEY SOUND REALLY LOUD.
FSSSSSH
ヒュルルルル…
FSSSSSH
ヒュルルルル…
HEY.
THERE GOES THE NEXT ROUND.
FLASH
ハァァア…
FLASH
ハァァア…
BOOM
ドン
BOOM
ドン
SO PRETTY.







HM?
HEY, SHUTARO?

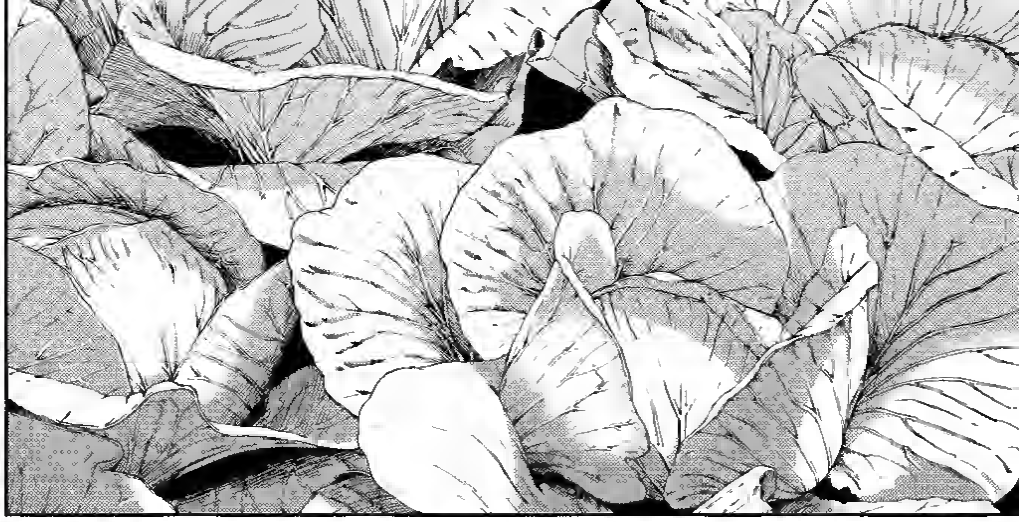


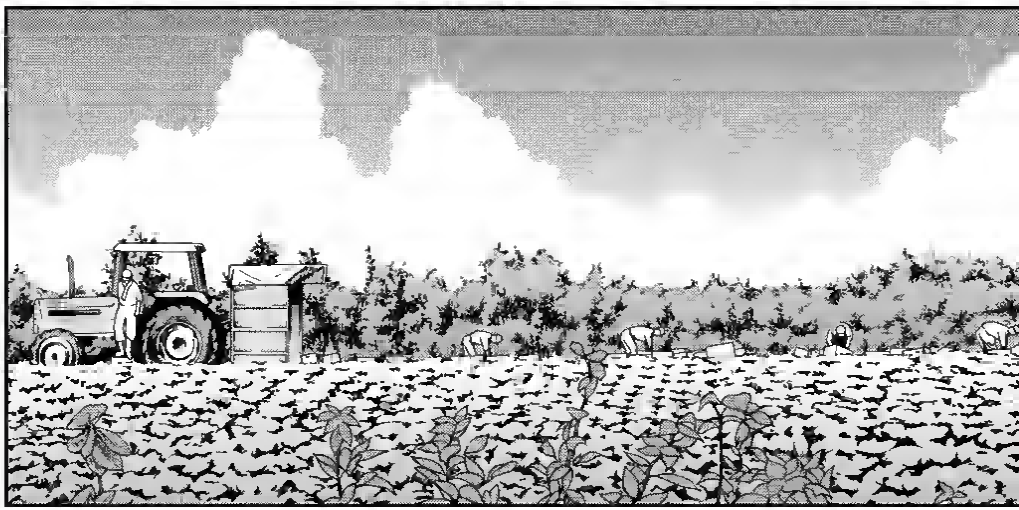
JAPAN IS...
FULL OF FUN THINGS, HUH?

...
YEAH

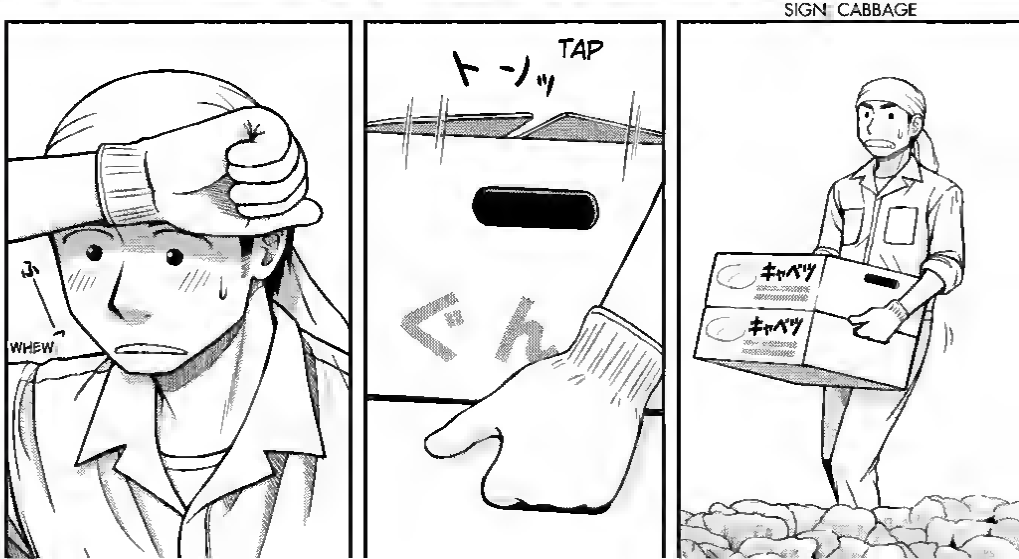
IT IS...

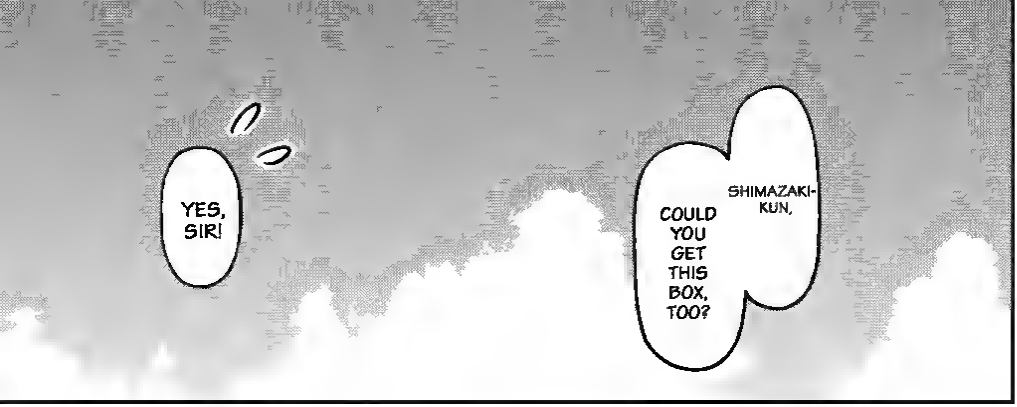
IT REALLY IS...

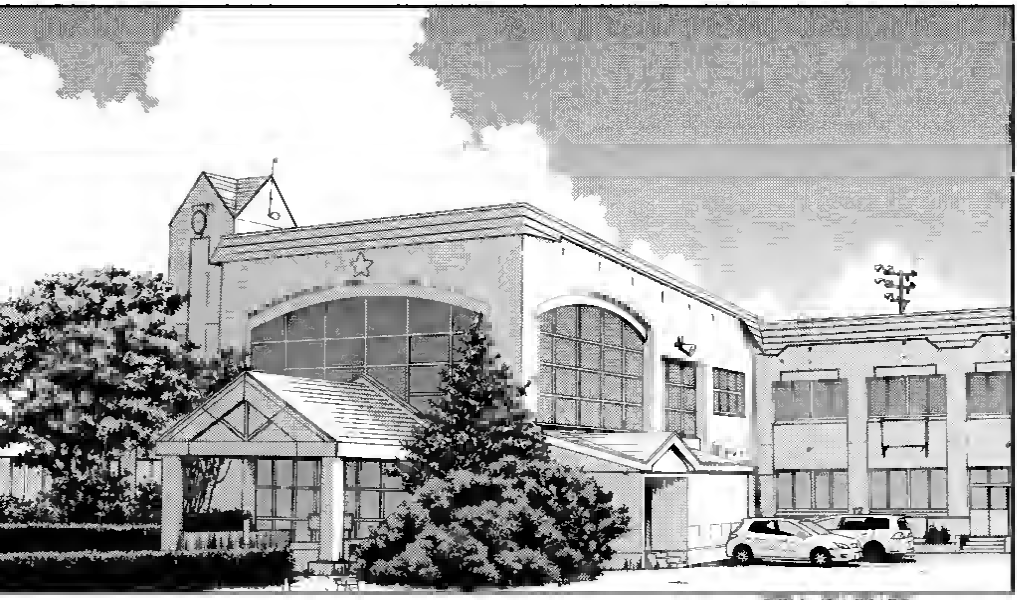




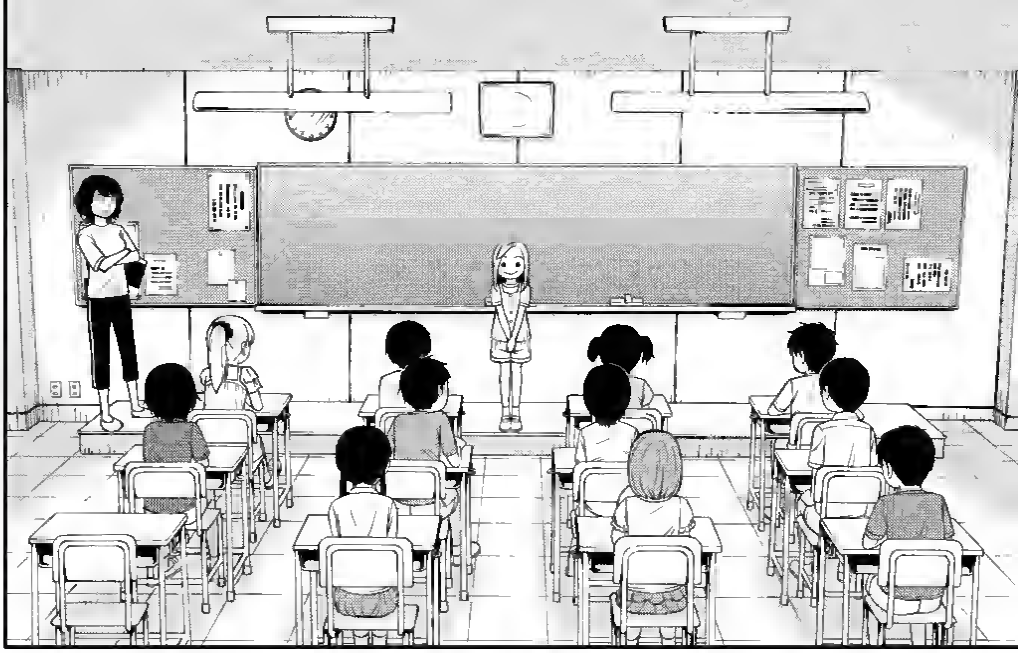
SIGN: CABBAGE

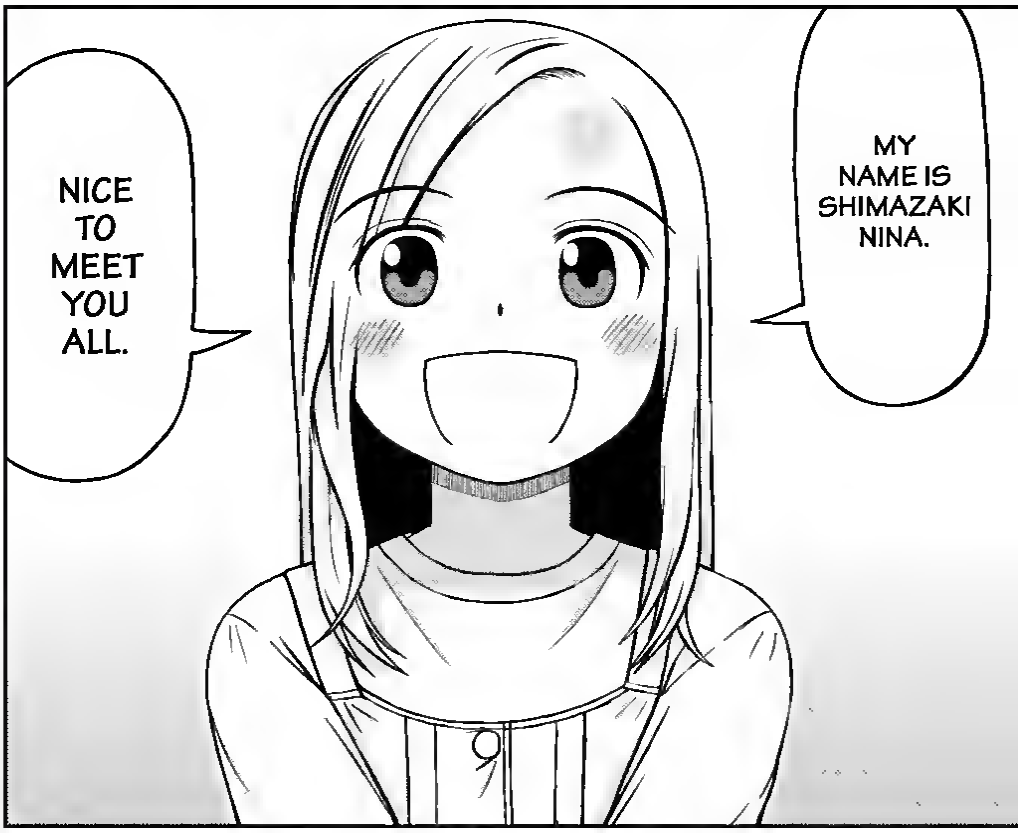






SIGN 4TH GRADE




MY NAME IS SHIMAZAKI NINA.
NICE TO MEET YOU ALL.

TO BE CONTINUED IN VOLUME 4!